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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

WOMAN'S DEFENSE.

A woman's reply to a man who said that woman caused all the trouble in the world.

You say 'twas the woman that caused Adam's fall;
I think I can prove it was not so at all.
Just look in your Bible, and you will perceive
God's command was to Adam, and never to Eve.
Although she, like a woman, the penalty paid,
The fruit was forbidden before she was made.
But, after his sin, Adam, just like a man,
Skulks 'round back of Eve as fast as he can
When he hears the Lord's voice in the garden at night,
And he whines: "Lord, she ate it. I just took a bite."
And since that sad time, I am sorry to say,
Man always has acted the very same way,
And whenever there is trouble of any kind,
The wife takes the brunt, while the man sneaks behind.
But up pops his head from behind his safe cover,
When trials are past and dangers are over,
And he crows loud and long, like a bold chanticleer:
"See, I shield and protect her, the weak little dear!
How noble is man, for you know all the evil
Was caused, not by man, but by Eve and the devil."

—Ella M. Proper in Minneapolis Housekeeper.

ON "X" RAYS.

If these "X" rays are good or bad,
To tell I am not able.
You see some things are Xcellent,
And others Xecrable.

The greatest living scientists,
With knowledge quite Xtensive,
Control the Xperiments are cheap—
And some say they're Xpensive.

Some men who'd lend a hope forlorn,
With singular composure,
If caught in Hymen's net would shrink
From having an Xposure.

It doesn't matter how Xpert
In truth a man is taught,
When he goes fishing he'll Xpress
Some fish that he has bought.

The best Xponent of a creed
Will weaken, so they say,
In case an Xtra X or two
Per week should come his way.

Some folks prefer Kentucky brew,
And some prefer the malted;
The net result is just the same—
They all do get Xalted.

And so I am by no means sure,
If we should blame or praise,
Or be quite so Xcited, 'bout
These X—or cathode rays.

—Chicago Dispatch.

THE PERFECT WOMAN.

She was a phantom of delight
When first she gleamed upon my sight;
A lovely apparition, sent
To be a moment's ornament.
Her eyes as stars of twilight fair;
Like twilight, too, her dusky hair.
But all things else about her drawn,
A dancing shape, an image gay,
To haunt, to startle, and waylay.

I saw her upon nearer view,
A spirit, yet a woman, too!
Her household motions light and free,
And steps of virgin liberty;
A countenance in which did meet
Sweet records, promises as sweet;
A creature not too bright or good,
For human nature's daily food;
For transient sorrows, simple wiles,
Praise, blame, love, kisses, tears and smiles.

And now I see with eye serene,
The very pulse of the machine;
A being breathing thoughtful breath,
The reason firm, the temperate will,
Endurance, foresight, strength and skill;
A perfect woman, nobly planned,
To warn, to comfort and command,
And yet a spirit still, and bright
With something of an angel's light.

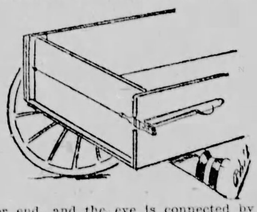
—Wadsworth.

Miscellany.

A USEFUL DEVICE

For Securely Holding in Place the End Gate of a Wagon.

A simple and durable device for securely holding the end gate of a wagon in place and permitting of quickly loosening it for convenient removal is shown in the accompanying illustration. The end gate slides loosely in cleats, extending through one of which is a short screw rod with a nut on its outer end and an eye on its inner end, and the eye is connected by a rod with a link adapted to engage a projection from the fulcrum end of a lever pivoted in a bracket attached to the other side of the wagon body.



The link is readily engaged with a recess in the outer end of the lever, when the latter is swung outward, after which the lever is swung inward close to the wagon body, as shown in the illustration, thus drawing the two sides of the wagon body toward each other to bind the end gate in place.

As the screw eye may be drawn in by means of the nut, any slack in the link and transverse rod may be readily taken up, permitting of always closely binding the sides upon the end gate, and, as the clamping lever is entirely on the outside of the wagon body, it does not obstruct the loading or unloading of the wagon.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Explained at Last.

"What makes you women kiss when you meet?"

"It is a sort of apology in advance for what we mean to say about each other after we part."—Indianapolis Journal.

And He Cackled.

Kicksey—Wife, can you tell me why I am like a hen?

Mrs. Kicksey—No, dear; why is it?

Kicksey—Because, I can seldom find anything where I laid it yesterday.—Pearson's Weekly.

A Test.

"Freddie, why did you drop the baby on the floor?"

"Well, I heard everybody say it is a bouncing baby, and I wanted to see it bounce."—Truth.

Persistent Depravity.

The Bicycling Editor—Pugilist Hallski bit off more than he could Chovnski—

The Fighting Editor—But it isn't pronounced at all like that. Ko-ko-ski—

The Bicycling Editor—Well, that's all right. Hallski didn't go-in-ski and winski, then.—Chicago Tribune.

But She Walloped Him.

"Fell inter th' canal, mather!"

"What-at' in them best clothes?"

"Cudden 'elp it—didn't 'ave no time to take 'em off."—Ally Sloper.

Used Only in Transit.

"What have you got rubbers on for this fine, dry day?"

"I ride into the city in a smoking car."—Chicago Record.

A Pious Wish.

He had asked her at the wind-up of a rather heated debate to leave him alone. In fact, he hinted that she was talking too much.

"You don't deny me the right of free speech?" she said.

"Oh, no, not for a minute! I just wish one thing, though."

"What's that?"

"That we lived in Chicago."

"Now, what's that got to do with it?"

"Why, they're suffering Sunday closing strictly there, you know. So your voice would get outlawed one day in the week, at any rate."

Then he fled to the club.—American Commercial Traveler.

Owes His Greatness to His Wife.

"He boasts that he is a self-made man."

"Oh, pshaw! Why, you don't imagine for a moment that he tied that four-in-hand himself, do you?"—Detroit Tribune.

THE DESTRUCTIVE NEW BABY OF THE NAVY.

Since the introduction of the bill by Senator Hill authorizing the construction of an electrical motor it is possible and highly probable that the United States will not increase its navy on the lines proposed only a month ago.

And there is another new factor and a more powerful one. Within a few weeks there has come to official knowledge an invention that will do away with the necessity for warships for purposes of defence or fighting. The invention has long been planned; the final test of the model is recent and the final assurance just made.

The cost of an armored warship is $3,000,000. The cost of the new invention was $170,000 for the first. Others will be cheaper, enough difference to provide fifteen of the new boats at the expense of one old one.

The invention is the perfected submarine torpedo boat. As it now stands, almost ready for active work, it is as interesting as the mystic ships of the Arabian Nights tales. Their best story does not approach it in wonder. The trial will be made some day soon. Then tales of what it can do will beat the stories of sea serpents.

The torpedo-boat has always been hailed as a thing invaluable in warfare. Our navy now has half a dozen old ones. But these are the rudest kind of craft, compared with the new sub-marine torpedo boat. Additions to the new are being made every day. The latest is the Colt automatic gun, which fires 400 shots a minute without being reloaded or touched in any way.

The plan of the new torpedo-boat, the Holland boat now being built, is to work entirely underneath the water. It is prepared to sink to a depth of 80 feet and operate its guns perfectly all the while, even while sinking.

For the boat to go down 80 feet in the water takes just 30 seconds from the time the order is given to lower the boat. When once down there she can steam away in any direction she wants to go at the same or better rate of speed than though on the surface. Her shape and color are so peculiar that the enemy could not possibly, except by the aid of divers, see her under the water; and these divers she could pick off with her rapid-firing guns as fast as they were lowered into the water.

The shape of the torpedo-boat is that of a cigar, with a match stuck upon the upper side. That is the impression she gives viewed from a sufficient distance. Inside the "cigar" there is the most extensive working apparatus. The "match" is a tower and an air tube, with a camera on top to show what is going on upon the water.

The method of sinking the vessel is by admitting water to her internal compartments. She also sinks by vertical propellers and horizontal rudders. As long as water is being admitted the boat sinks. When she is low enough the water is shut off by an appliance. This allows the boat to sink no lower. When she goes down she goes down without pointing either end downward, never turning herself, but sinking like a stone and as quickly. Should she by any accident tip one end downward there is a triangular drag above the rudder that notifies the engineers, and they right her by compass, vertical rudder and lever. Her air for her crew comes from compressed-air compartments or by tube directly from the surface of the water, if the boat is near enough to get its air supply from above.

The boat is manned by 12 seamen.

It is unlikely that a torpedo boat would want to remain under water more than 15 minutes at a time. But this boat could, so far as its possibilities go, remain under water forever. Once in a while it would come near enough to the surface to refill its air compartments. And it is not likely that it would ever want to operate at a greater distance than 30 feet—low enough to aim at the powder magazine of the war vessel it was attacking or to shatter its hull—but it could go as far down as it wanted to, until it reached 70 or 80 feet, when the weight of the water above would crush it, according to scientific calculations of the weight of the ocean at that depth.

In case anything of this kind happened, if the vessel on going down could not stop at 70 feet, if its automatic appliances were out of order, if an accident happened, all the crew would immediately put on Fleuss diving helmets, with which they would be equipped, and, coming out the companion-way, would make a jump upward for the surface of the water. Once on the surface they would, being seamen, run little risk of their lives, no more than the ordinary risk of war.

The object of the torpedo boat is to frighten. This is the whole object of war. The United States would not go to war with Great Britain for the purpose of shattering her navy and killing all her seamen. A country wars to enforce its rights. It does not kill its prisoners. Rights being enforced, they are returned.

The torpedo boat would frighten. Its little pipestem sticking above the water would warn a warship to keep away.

Suppose the British ship Revenge were to anchor off Boston or flit towards New York Harbor. Suppose no ship in our young navy wanted to set out to face it. Suppose the head of the navy did not feel that he could risk any one of his precious few ships. What could he do? And the Revenge coming straight onward!

He could send out a torpedo boat. This little fellow with its pipe sticking above water would steer boldly towards the Revenge. The order to fire upon our little torpedo would be given by the British. Only one thing could be hit—that is the little tower and the tube rising above it. Suppose it chose to remain upon the surface and be hit. The tower is of Harveyized steel eight inches thick. The tube is armored and will withstand a great deal. It contains the air shaft. If it is taken off by fire another one can be raised. It could be hit only by rapid-firing guns, as it is so small that single aim could hardly hope to hit it at a distance, and the rapid-firing guns do not carry heavy enough ammunition to penetrate it. Should it by accident be taken off a new one could be raised from the tower.

Meanwhile the torpedo boat is steering towards the Revenge, lying on the surface, as it were. This means that a curved armor plate is upon the sea. The curved armor plate is upon the sea. The plate is of armor an inch thick, and, being curved, resists all ammunition thrown upon it.

The direct effect of the sight of the torpedo boat would be to frighten the Revenge so it would steam away. Not even a warship wants to fight an unseen enemy. The torpedo boat is a submarine enemy that best not be attacked.

Should the Revenge not retreat the torpedo boat would sink from sight. Then look out for the Revenge! In each of the ends of the torpedo boat is a torpedo air tube. This is filled with dynamite torpedoes. The torpedo boat could run up to within forty feet of the Revenge and fire a cartridge into the bottom of the boat. A great hole would be rent. In this hole would rush water, and in half an hour the last of the Revenge would be seen sinking out of sight.

With a small dynamite cartridge a hole could be blown in the bottom of the boat large enough to sink it in the time the unhurt torpedo boat was rising to the surface. In a sharp naval engagement the automatic Colt rapid-firing gun would be used to penetrate the powder magazine of the Revenge and blow it up. As a war ship carries hundreds of pounds of gunpowder, the rapidity with which the warship would go up can be told only by a "twinkling."

The question was raised of the safety of the little boat after it had sent out the dynamite cartridges towards the powder magazine of the war vessel. The torpedo would fire while running away from the vessel, and owing to the rapidity of its movements, it would be forty feet further away by the time the cartridge had gone through the water and had penetrated the powder magazine.

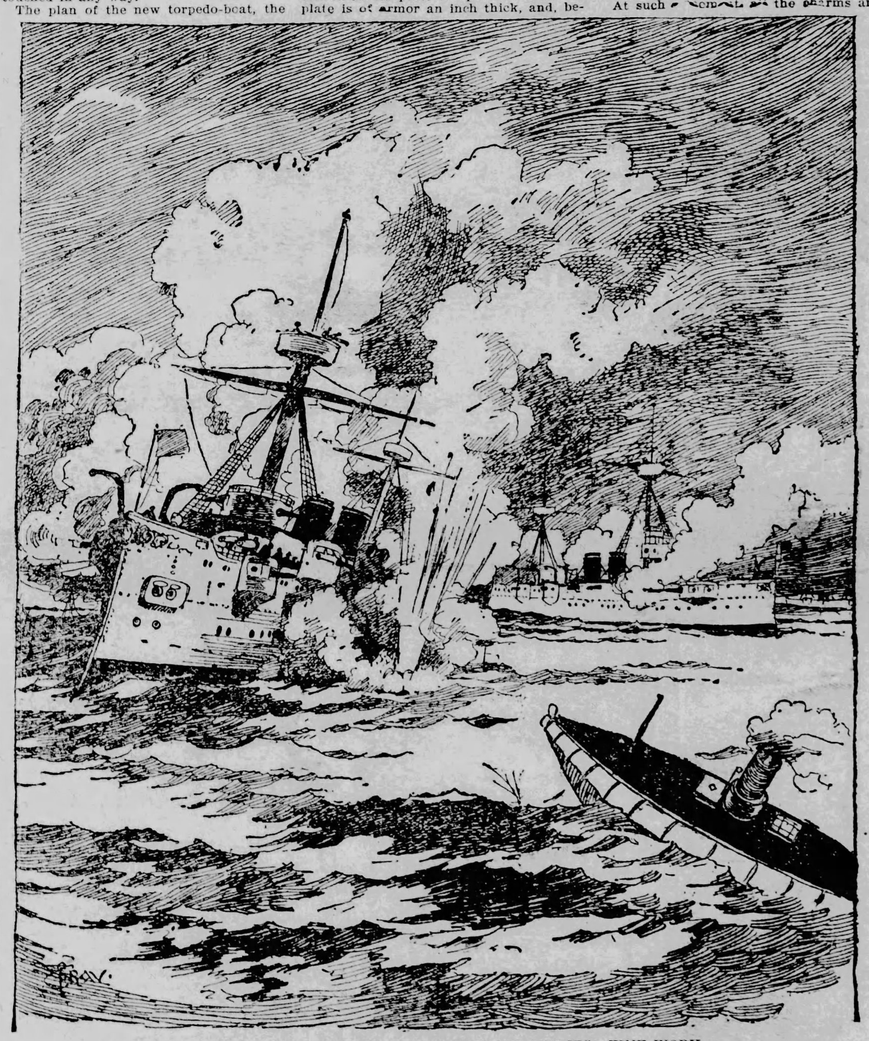
Suppose the warship exploded and went flying into the air. The time required for the pieces of a battleship to fly into the air and fall again would be several seconds. During this time the torpedo-boat would be escaping, and would be at a great distance. Forty feet under water, the probability of being struck by the falling pieces would be small. Should a ton of iron settle upon her her shape would undoubtedly cause the iron to slide off. But the event of being hit by sinking iron is considered by the experts almost an impossibility, certainly the least of the chances of war.

In a marine engagement with a torpedo boat in operation, so many fires would be directed upon the little smoke stack that the boat would have to travel for many miles under water. The first part of the submarine distance would be made by the steam left in the boilers. Afterwards the propeller which is operated by electricity would be started up.

The United States Naval board, which recommended the construction of the torpedo-boat considers it is a very desirable spying agent. A torpedo boat could by night steal into the enemy's harbor and get information. It could carry messages to United States war vessels, and it could be a sub-marine communication between vessel and port. In tapping a cable for land communication it would be invaluable.

The question arises that if the United States has these vessels, why cannot Great Britain have them? Because she hasn't the patent or the pattern. The Holland boat is a secret with its inventor and the United States navy. If other countries get it it will be years before they do so; by that time Yankee ingenuity will invent a new way of cornering the enemy. With forty of these torpedo boats and eighty of the new automatic rapid-firing guns in operation there would be destruction in a hostile fleet in a short space of time. Its camera, sticking above water, would tell what most needed attack.

A model of the torpedo boat has been made and operated, the experiment being entirely successful. As soon as the large boat is completed there will be a practical test of its powers to the extent of blowing up an island in the ocean, working dynamite cartridges underneath, and it is hoped that one of the old war vessels will be offered up as a sacrifice to it.



HOW THE BABY OF THE NAVY GETS IN ITS FINE WORK.

THE TYPICAL AMERICAN HUSBAND

He Has but Few Spare Hours to Devote to His Home.

The type of American husband most familiar among us, however, is the man of busy energies, kindly, affectionate, proud of his family, with whom he is free-handed and sympathetic in their pleasures—who might, if the stress of making a livelihood would leave him free to do so, enjoy domestic life heartily, and aid in bringing the married state to be what good old Dicky Steele described it in the Tattler—"a complication of all the pleasures of life and a retreat from its inquietudes." But, alas! under the conditions of modern money-grubbing, says the North American Review, what opportunity has the poor man to cultivate fireside amenities and hang garlands upon the lares of his hearth? In New York, for instance, he hurries away from home directly after eating a hasty breakfast, to return to it late in the day, fagged from the incessant and nervous grinding of the mill down town, and ravening for his dinner.

At such a season as the charms and all the virtues combined in one wife, often cannot win smiles or playful speech from any husband so beset, and a wise woman effaces herself until the gastrandial hour gives her a reasonable hope of claiming his conversation. At this period of the evening unless she is a mere monger of nursery gossip or a household drudge, her spirit, braced and expanded by the day of independence and responsibility, is eager for the fray of ideas. She longs for the interchange of sentiment on current topics, while at heart (an organ among our wives apt to be fairly well stored with conjugal affection) owns to a little joyous thrill of satisfaction in the tete-a-tete that has lost nothing by years of repetition. To it, even the grown children are an interruption, and she sees them go their several ways in search of more active entertainment with almost a sigh of satisfaction! What, at this interesting juncture, is the attitude of the ideal husband? What, of the real husband? These are queries to be answered by observation or by experience!

FISH MADE OF PAPER.

It May Be Made to Swim Without Any Apparent Aid.

Here is a little experience that illustrates a principle of natural philosophy. Cut out of ordinary note paper a fish like the one shown in the cut, and let it be a good-sized one. In the center cut a circular opening, a, communicating with the tail by means of the narrow canal, ab, opening at b.

A PAPER FISH.

Now let plenty of water run in the bath tub and place the fish in it so that its ventral half may be thoroughly wetted and its dorsal half remain dry. Pour into the opening at a, a good-sized drop of oil, and this will at once seek to spread itself over the surface of the water. As it can only do so through the canal ab, the reactive force thus exerted will propel the fish forward, which always surprises those to whom the secret of the oil is not known.

Hacking at Niagara.

Mrs. Cawker—It is said that the falls at Niagara are wearing away rapidly.

Mr. Cawker—I don't wonder at that. A great many people take a hack at Niagara Falls—Harper's Bazar.

Nowaday.

Sporting Editor—"I see the editor-in-chief has thrown out your article on 'A City Dairy.'"

City Editor—"I wonder why?"

"He said it was only a milk-and-water affair."—Yonkers Statesman.

Our Serial Story.

THE MYSTERY OF AVENUE D.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE BLADE BY DAVID LOWRY.

CHAPTER XIII.—THE DANGEROUS VIGIL.

Maxwell went down on his hands and knees, scattered the few embers remaining right and left, then looked over the ashes carefully. Once more his hands were thrust into the ashes and Alexander saw him lift a piece of string. One glance at the string seemed to satisfy Maxwell, who suddenly stood erect, with a triumphant look.

"Am I to regard that as a part of the hang man's rope?" Alexander smiled. To his intense surprise Maxwell replied on the instant: "Yes; small as it is, I am confident it will supply all the evidence needed." He turned toward the house as he spoke followed by Alexander, who was greatly puzzled by his manner. Maxwell went straight to Bill, took him aside and whispered. Alexander could see Bill's face flushing, but he made no sign until Mexwell left his side. Then Bill addressed a man near him; the man addressed uttered something in a low tone to a companion beside him; the next instant Fox was in the grasp of two resolute men while his "nevvy" was held by two others.

A torrent of blasphemy filled the room; but Fox's efforts to free himself were futile. His "nevvy" was apparently unconcerned. Long before the storm of blasphemy subsided the crowd that filled Fox's realized that serious work was before them.

"I'll get even with you, Bill; bank on that; if it takes years. Comin' into a man's house in this way without a shadow of excuse—jumpin' on me an' my nevvy! I'll get even."

"It all depends—you an' your nevvy maybe can explain some things we want to know." Bill looked at Maxwell meaningly ,and continued, "First and foremost, you tell them what you've just told me, Mr. Maxwell."

Maxwell stood out where they could all see him.

"You were all puzzled when you could not find any marks of a horse's hoofs leading away from Davis's. Perhaps with Bill's help I can explain it. When we were on our way from Jeff Haywoods to Cripple Creek we were separated for a time. In fact I lost sight of Bill. And when I was wondering how I would find my way to Cripple Creek a man on a horse passed me at a gallop—came into sight and disappeared like a flash."

"What's this dann spook story got to do with us?" Fox demanded scornfully.

"Bill explained it to me—he said it was a bad sign—that the horse's hoofs were muffled, and afterwards we found the coach from Bukigers Flat on the road with the driver lying dead beside it."

"What in hell——"

But Fox's roar of rage was silenced by a powerful hand. Maxwell continued in a calm, even voice, "Gentlemen, I found at Davis's, lying on the floor a few pieces of string."

"Pieces of string?" Fox echoed.

"I also found some pieces of what looked like yarn which was not exactly yarn. I will leave it to you to determine what it is. Within the past five minutes I found in the ashes of a fire back of this house—this."

Mexwell suddenly held up where all could see it, a piece of a dirty blanket. "You can all see that it has been burned."

The crowd in Fox's listened wonderingly, every man could hear his heart throbbing in the hush that suddenly fell upon them.

Mexwell raised his voice: "I also found this piece of string, gentlemen, partly burned as you see it."

"Well I'll be——" Fox began violently when his mouth was closed again.

"It is quite clear to me, gentlemen, that the man that destroyed the remainder of this blanket had an object—when he put the blanket and string in the fire he thought he was destroying the only tangible evidence there was against him. You can look at this bit of yarn—see, it is the same color as this piece of blanket—it is part and parcel of it. And here are pieces of string I lifted from the floor in Davis's house. It is the same string. The man that murdered Davis muffled his horse's hoofs with an old army blanket, torn into squares; he tied the blanket around his feet with pieces of string. And he passed me in the early part of the morning fleeing from the scene of his last cowardly crime." Profound silence reigned when Maxwell ceased speaking. Every eye was turned on Fox's "nevvy."

"Of all the truck I ever heard," Fox began in a deliberate tone, "blankets and string and ashes—I wonder you fellows ain't ashamed of yourselves—I know I would be! Why," he added with a horrible oath, "I wouldn't shoot a coyote on such blamed truck!"

"I am afraid there ain't none of us that will agree with you."

Bill's voice sounded solemn; "it's every word true what Maxwell says. We'd like you or your nevvy to explain just how that piece of blanket and that string got here, what it was put in the fire for?"

"You're a passel o' blamed idjits!"

"We mean business all the same. Now's the time for you or your nevvy there to explain this whole business, for unless you can well, we are here to see justice done—that's how things us."

"You ain't in earniest," Fox shrieked, "hang a man on——"

"Make up your mind that somebody'll be swung up in less than ten minutes if that blanket and string ain't explained away."

There was a light in Bill's eye that boded no good to Fox and his "nevvy."

Fox's "nevvy" looked from one to the other in a scornful way, shot a keen glance at Fox that Maxwell intercepted and noted,, then turned to the window. There was a responsive gleam in Fox's eye, the captives understood each other; Maxwell gave Bill a warning look.

"Come," said Bill, "time's valuable; whatever you've got to say you'd best say quick."

"All I've got to say is, I don't know nothin' 'bout any blanket whatsoever, nor I ain't responsible for all the stings that you pick up 'tween here and Halifax." Fox spoke savagely, his eyes were baleful in their gleam as he lifted them from the floor in a dogged way that reminded Maxwell and Alexander of a cur detected in the act of stealing. Maxwell conceived a deep antipathy to the man.

"I've said it once, and I'll say it again, there ain't no sense in such talk; no justice, no nothin' but cussed spite. 'Cos I don't agree with you and knuckle down to you, Bill, why you think now you'll do as you damn please with me. That's about the size of it."

"And what have you got to say for yourself?" Bill turned to the young man.

"Me?" said Fox's "nevvy"—"you are doing all the talking—I ain't saying a word."

The scorn condensed in that brief reply was so intense that it stunned the listeners. There were smothered expressions in which Maxwell and Alexander heard the words "great gall" and "cheek." But the burden of the utterances rested in Bill by common consent. Hippie, like the others, remained silent.

"In that case, Fox, I guess we'll have to make an example of some one; I guess it will be your nevvy here, that none of us has any recollection of."

"That's right—hang everybody you haint any recollection of—and stop emmigration." Fox was the only man that laughed at his lame jest; their captors were growing restive. The evidence was overwhelming. True, a rigid search had not revealed the money stolen from Davis; but in all probability the money would be found later

"Fox, it won't work with us; you ought to know us better. Unless you speak out we'll hang this fellow first, and see what's to be done with you later. Boys, carry this fellow out——"

With a bound like a leopard in its grace, Fox's "nevvy" leaped through the open door, knocking those obstructing his passage right and left. His hands, which they thought were securely tied, were free. As he sped like the wind across the opening, a volley of bullets cut the air around him. A running fire of bullets succeeded; but Fox's "nevvy" did not pause in his mad flight. He ran with increased speed seemingly, until he reached a clump of live oaks.

"I'll bet he's got a horse out there," Bill exclaimed in his rage.

"If he has you'll never catch him," Fox answered, with a disagreeable leer at Bill.

"One of you stay here with Fox," said Bill, "will you stay, Maxwell?"

There was a shuffling of feet around the house. Horses were mounted quickly; soon the pursuing party were galloping across the opening.

Looking through the window, Maxwell beheld Fox's "nevvy" emerging from the live oaks. He was mounted on a magnificent chestnut. He turned in his saddle deliberately, and waived a hand at his pursuers, then bounded across the plain in a burst of speed that soon left his pursuers far behind.

The scene passed so quickly that Maxwell scarcely realized his position until he found himself alone with Fox staring at him like an animal at bay.

Without, the landscape spread before him calm and unruffled. The sun's rays poured steadily down upon the green sward in front of Fox's ranch. Looking up, Maxwell could see the buzzards flapping their wings lazily, the only living things in sight.

"Well," Maxwell exclaimed mentally, "this is decidedly interesting."

When he turned and looked at Fox, something in that individual's eyes impressed him with a sense of danger. Maxwell was quick to think, quick in action. He advanced to Fox with his revolver aimed at Fox's head.

"Unless you obey me implicitly, I'll blow your brains out. Get up. Now turn your back to me."

Fox obeyed with a snarl of baffled rage. Maxwell's intuitions served him well. Fox's hands were loose; the rope that bound them was hanging loosely on one wrist; his right hand, covered with the wrist on which the rope hung twitched nervously as he stood with his face to the wall.

Maxwell considered a minute or more, contemplating his captive. At last he decided upon his course.

"Mr. Fox, I am considered a fair shot. I think it will be as well to demonstrate the fact in a manner that you will comprehend. If you will glance to the right you will observe a small knot in a board on a line with your head. You see it plainly. I will just step back to the door—about fifteen feet as near as I am able to judge. I will aim at the center of the knot. I have not practiced much lately, still I think I can at least hit the knot."

A report drowned his last words; when Fox looked at the knot there was a hole fair in the center.

"Now Mr. Fox, I will trouble you to put your hands in your pockets and turn them inside out."

A piece of tobacco and a large pocket knife dropped on the floor.

"Now oblige me by taking off your coat and vest—toss them to me. Now your trousers, Mr. ——"

"What in the he——"

"No unnecessary profanity, Mr. Fox."

"What d' ye mean by making me go naked?" Fox fumed.

"Off with them. Now—put your feet through the arms of your coat. Ah, I see it is a little tight—all the better."

Fox swore until the very air turned blue, but Maxwell was inexorable.

"These precautions are rendered necessary by the facility you and your "nevvy" have displaced in untying cords—quite an accomplishment, and also, I may add because you are twice as strong as I am. You compel me to adopt due precautions. I observe two or three stout nails lying in the corner. Now if you will oblige me by sitting up I will nail wour coattails to the floor. In this way I may possibly be able to keep a closer watch on your movements."

It is scarcely necessary to add that Maxwell was the recipient of the choicest expletives that his victim could invent. All of which Maxwell listened to with an indifference that maddened Fox.

"What kind of a man are you, anyhow, that you don't strike me, now you can do just as you please with me?" Fox demanded after an ebullition designed to tempt Maxwell into the commission of violence.

"Not the kind of man you are, at all events," Maxwell answered. "I will never take advantage of a man just because he is in my power. I am only protecting myself now. You would brain me in a minute if I were in your power."

Fox made no response to this; from that time on he held his peace.

The long hours wore slowly away. Maxwell looked out alternately from the door and the window, pacing slowly at times like a sentry, at times sitting listlessly on the floor beside the prisoner.

The sun had set. The stars came out, glimmering over the distant divide when Maxwell heard a sound like that made by a galloping horse. Certainly some one was approaching at a high rate of speed. Yes, there was the jingling of spurs—the next instant a mounted man rode across the opening; behind him were other shadowy forms; Maxwell's long watch was over.

It was Old Bill, followed by Hipple and Alexander. The three entered the door simultaneously. Galloping feet foretold the coming of others.

CHAPTER XIV.—"SOME OLD PAPERS."

"What in the ——"

The trio halted in the door, looking from Maxwell to Fox, from Fox to Maxwell. Then as the situation dawned slowly upon them they burst into a roar of laughter.

"If somebody will obliged me with a light——"

Bill handed Maxwell a match. He lit a candle he found on a ledge and surveyed his companions very deliberately, saying:

"I am very glad to see you back again." Then addressing Fox: "You can get up now and put your trousers on again—likewise your coat and vest."

As Fox obeyed him in silence, Maxwell explained the necessity that compelled him to resort to such extraordinary measures. As for Mr. Fox, never did man wear a more subdued air than the owner of Fox's ranch. His humiliation was abject, complete.

"I don't see as there is anything for us to do but return to Cripple Creek, boys," said Bill, as the crowd filled the ranch.

"I would like a mite of something to eat afore we start."

Several echoed Hippie's thought; there was a general hollowness that demanded creature comforts. Maxwell explored the premises; in a few minutes a coffee-pot was hissing on the fire Alexander lit, slices of bacon filled the ranch with their odor, and a pot of potatoes was emptied on the glowing coals.

"By George," Hipple exclaimed as he looked at Maxwell and Alexander, who busied themselves preparing the meal, "you two men ain't noways slow tossing things up."

"I ought to be able to take care of myself," Maxwell replied. "I had to cook for myself often enough when I was in the army."

"And how do you think the best tobacco that man ever tasted—Paradise tobacco—would have been introduced to hungry miners all over Colorado if I couldn't cook anything from a pot of potatoes to a Christmas dinner," said Alexander.

"Do you really the man that makes Paradise tobacco?" a miner asked.

"No," said Alexander promptly; "I hire him to make it—I sell it."

"You might ask him to put some more in the plugs then," the miner replied; "they're most too small."

His companions laughed; they appreciated the force of the criticism; the Paradise plugs were very small.

"Don't you know that we go on quality?" Alexander answered with mock severity; "why don't you sell pay dirt that yields five hundred dollars to the ton as cheap as you sell dirt that yields only fifty a ton? You get as much good out of one plug of Paradise as you get out of a dozen of any other kind. You buy a lot of stuff that fills your mouth—it might as well be hay for all the good it does you—I'd rather eat hay than chaw some of the tobacco I see around here—but put a bit of Paradise in your mouth—you are in Paradise."

"There are no buyers here," said Maxwell; "reserve your eloquence; it is wasted."

"Allow me to practice them to keep my hand in. In some places I am now regarded as a public benefactor—fact. There are bids out for plans and specifications for monuments to be erected to me, which is more than Maxwell can say. Thousands call me blessed now—in another year—less time, I expect half of all the children born west of Chicago will be named after me; the name of Alexander will go hurling down the ages —get out of the way! Don't you see the coffee is boiling over!"

"You are real handy, both of you, I must say—but I prefer my coffee in a cup or tin, anywhere rather than on my shin," said Hipple.

"You haven't discovered half the beauties of the combination," Alexander retorted; "for instance, you don't know that we have the same name—only it's reversed in Maxwell's case—out of deference to my forefathers, doubtless. He is named Alexander Maxwell—I am named Maxwell Alexander. His grandfather was permitted to eat the scrag ends of the necks of the cattle my grandfather killed in Scotland."

"I have not the least doubt his grandfather stole every morsel of meat he ate from my grandfather!" Maxwell retorted gravely.

"By the way," said Alexander, as he lifted a few potatoes out of the fire, "anybody in Richmond, Virginia?"

"The woods are full of Alexanders there—just as many as there are of Maxwells where you were born."

"Where was that?"

"In Western Pennsylvania somewhere."

"Not a bad guess; I was born in Washington county."

Alexander looked around triumphantly with a look that said plainly "I told you so," then turned to the frying pan which demanded his entire attention.

"There you are, gentlemen," he added a minute later. "I'll leave it to Mr. Fox if he ever ate a nicer bit of bacon than that. When a man is as hungry as I am this is a meal for the gods—if we only had a little something to go with it. Easy Jack took a fancy to my silver fork, so I couldn't do less than make it a present to him."

"With Mr. Fox's permission"—

Maxwell reached up to a corner of a shelf and brought forth a jug.

The jug was passed from hand to hand in silence until it reached Alexander, who looked at Maxwell as he said: "There don't appear to be more than enough left here for Mr. Fox after I get a taste."

"Damn the whisky!" said Fox heartily, "I don't want none of it." "Which means that you do want some of it, two negatives"—

He handed Fox a drink in a tin cup. Fox reconsidered; he might as well have a drink of his own liquor. He looked around him warily as he wiped his mouth on his coat-sleeve, and ventured to ask:

"What are you folks going to do with me?"

"We are going to take you to Cripple Creek, an' let the folks there decide what's to be done with you," Bill replied.

"Suits me?" said Fox, "they can't do worse than you—hang a fellow on account of a string and a burned rag."

"Maybe they will find a way to loosen your tongue."

"Nary loosen—I don't know nothin so I can't say nothin', ain't that plain open an' shut?" Fox looked at his captors sullenly.

"You maybe can tell them somethin' about your nevvy. That's a burnin' question just now as the preachers say—there ain't nobody able to locate him exactly." Hipple uttered this with due gravity—he was speaking for his companions who one and all were unable to fix the locality Fox's "nevvy" made his "stompin' ground."

"An' there's another thing," Bill added with a meaning look at Fox, "your nevvy seems to be an amazin' good judge of horse flesh—I shouldn't wonder if they'd want to get a few pints from you about horses."

"There ant nobody can say as ever I stole a horse," Fox replied.

"No, I am not sure anybody as much as hinted you stole a horse. You've been known to talk to people that were suspicioned—you won't deny that."

"I ant denyin' nothin'. I'm tryin' to keep my mouth shet——"

"If you boys is satisfied; why I reckon it's about time to make a start." Old Bill glanced at the sky. "It'll be purty late by the time we get back to Cripple Creek."

"You will stop at Davis's on the way? Maxwell said.

"Of course—it's right on the way; certainly we'll stop at Davis's."

The sky was gemmed with stars when the party remounted; the horses sniffed the cool night air, trotting spiritedly as they left Fox's ranch in the distance. Every man there was disappointed at the outcome of the search so far, but not a man of them uttered a complaint, or so much as ventured an opinion. Old Bill was the captain; whatever Bill did or said was right. And there was Hipple—if Bill and Hipple didn't know who could know?"

They reached Davis's about midnight. Two men came to the door, looking out curiously. When they recognized Bill they re-entered the house solemnly.

Davis was neatly coffined. Some considerate hand had adjusted a high collar about the neck, this and a large bow concealed the gaping wound.

"Looks as natural as life," said Hipple as he looked at the dead miner.

"There's a man as never did harm to no one," said Bill.

The others only looked on; in the presence of the grim destroyer the men of the plains have little to say.

"I suppose somebody will look after his papers carefully."

Bill stared at Maxwell dumbly. "I don't exactly——"

"He probably has valuable papers—things that his relatives should have."

"Tom had no relatives—heard him say mer'n a hundred times there wasn't a soul belonging to him."

"Still his papers ought to be taken care of."

"O! I understand now; why certainly. What's to hinder you from doin' it? I'm and me don't know much about writin'—you gather up his papers and bring them to town with you."

"I will ask you and Ben to help me to gather them then."

A quantity of papers were found laid away evidently with great care in a large box. These were wrapped up in a newspaper and Maxwell took charge of them. Nothing else of any great value was found. Tom Davis, like many another rich man had few wants, and they were easily gratified.

"There don't seem to be anything more for us to do; I guess we may as well start."

The crowd filed out of the house as quietly as they had entered and rode away in silence. They knew that Davis would get a decent burial; they were more concerned just then in the pursuit of his murderer; they would not give it up as long as they had a leader.

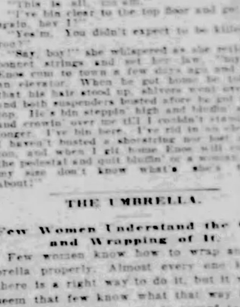
Grey dawn was stretching over Cripple Creek when they re-entered the town, tired and sleepy. Bill and Hipple took charge of Fox; the little party dispersed to meet at the call of their leader in the morning; ten minutes later Maxwell and Alexander were sleeping in the same bed in the hotel.

(To Be Continued.)

PERFECT ANKLE MOTION.

How It May Be Secured and So Help a Bicyclist on a Long Run.

A very small percentage of the latter-day wheelmen seem to have any idea of the immense advantage to be derived by the use and gradual perfection of good ankle action in pedaling a bicycle, particularly on hills and country touring, says Homer M. More in the New York Times. As explained in detail by him, his point will doubtless



make an impression on those who are desirous of becoming strong riders with the least amount of exertion. In each complete revolution of the cranks the pedals make a complete circle. To explain, a circle is divided into eight segments, thus:

A and F are the dead centers. Most riders apply their power when the pedal reaches point marked 1, continuing the pressure to point marked 3, and allowing the momentum of the wheel to carry them over the dead centers A and F. This may do on a perfectly level road, although the chain can be felt to suddenly tighten, and then loosen again, giving a very jerky motion, instead of the steady rhythmic glide so delightful to the finished cyclist. With a little continuous practice, and by dropping the right heel as the right crank comes up on the back stroke, the power can be applied at the point marked K, which is forward of the dead center A. As the right crank descends, the foot gradually straightens out, until at the point C the foot is level. After passing C if the heel is raised, and the toe dropped with a crawling motion, the pressure can be applied to the point marked L. The left foot at the same time is applying power on the left pedal at the point K. Thus the left foot is pushing over the dead center A, while the right is clawing over the dead center E, thus practically annihilating that greatest bugbear, dead center.

Thus the left ankle when good ankle motion applies power to five segments out of the possible, while the indifferent rider gets an uneven power on only three segments out of eight in a single revolution of the pedal. In a ride of 50 miles or more the immense advantage will be seen at a glance.—New York Times.

CALLING HIS BLUFF.

Uncle Enos Won't Be Able to Brag When His Wife Gets Home.

"Do you wish to go up, madam?" asked the elevator boy of the little woman who had been standing round for a quarter of an hour and evidently needing herself on how things worked, says the Detroit Free Press.

"Any danger?" she queried.

"Not the slightest."

"Am I git out if I feel faint?"

"Yes, you didn't you ever ride in an elevator?"

"Never."

"Well, come along."

She sidled about a little more then to think about it, and when he had made two more trips she braved to and walked into the car.

"Well, I might as well be killed as to have Hiram accused as he has for the last two weeks. Let go of me, you fool boy!" and she stood her ground and stamped her teeth hard, and scarcely moved a muscle until she was landed on the ground floor again.

"Anything wrong with that?" asked the boy as she got out.

"Is this all there is to it?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"I've bin clear to the top floor and ye down again, hev I?"

"Yes'm. You didn't expect to be killed did you?"

"Say boy!" she whispered as she untied her bonnet strings and set up her back hair, "I know cum to a few shins ago and rid in an elevator. When he got home he told me that his lady stood up, shivers down his back and both knees trembled before he got to the top. He's bin steppin high and kindly around and crowin over me till I couldn't stand it no longer. I've bin here to the city to see Hiram, but I haven't stood a shootin' me but I kin, and when I git home Enos will have to say the pedestal and quit blowin'

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or of firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

John Knox.

H. N. W., Coventryville, N. Y.: John Knox, the Scottish reformer, was born in Haddington, in 1505. The first mention of him in the history of the Scottish reformation is as a companion of the martyr Wishart. After the latter's death by burning, Knox went into retirement. On May 29, 1546, Cardinal Beaton was murdered in his own castle, which was then taken possession of by the reformers who killed him; and St. Andrew's castle thus became the temporary stronghold of the reforming interests, and Knox took refuge there with his two pupils, the sons of Scotch nobles. Here his great gifts as a preacher first became known. The castle was obliged to surrender, and Knox was sent to the French galleys, being liberated after two years. He lived in England the next four years, and was appointed one of King Edward VI's chaplains; the accession of Queen Mary drove him to Geneva, where he settled in Frankfort. In 1555 he went to Scotland, and did much to aid the reformers. The arrival of Queen Mary, in 1561, brought forebodings to the reformers, from her character and devotion to the Roman church. The result was his alienation from the moderate Protestant party, who attempted to govern the country in the queen's name, and from 1563 to 1565 he was in comparative privacy. Mary's marriage to Darnley brought him to the front. The Parliament which convened in 1567 effected some further reforms, but the murder of Murray brought discord and confusion, and Knox again retired to privacy. In the end of 1572 he returned to Edinburgh to die, his death occurring on November 24 of that year.

The Christian Era.

T. C. B., Chapin, Mich., writes: "It is said the date of the birth of Jesus is fixed by scholars at four years before the present era, so that our calendar should be 1900, instead of 1896. If that be the case, why are four years behind in our reckoning?"

C. B. Hopkins, Mo., asks: "Tell me why the Christian era does not commence with the birth of Christ? How was the mistake made?"

The date of Christ's birth is not accurately known. The early Christians mistakenly supposed that the second coming of Christ would be almost immediately—in the lifetime of some of the apostles; hence they paid no attention to the historical and chronological facts of Christ's history, and left these matters largely to conjecture for future generations. When Christianity began to be predominant in the civilized world, writers began to date from epochs in Christ's life. About the middle of the sixth century, Dionysius Exiguus (Dionysius the Little), a Roman abbot of Scythian birth, introduced the method of dating from the birth of Christ. This was a mistake in the matter, and believed that the birth took place in the fourth year of the 194th Olympiad, the 753d year A. U. C. (from the founding of Rome.)

Modern investigation has shown that it is probable he placed this event about four years too early, and that the birth of Christ was some little time before the month of April, A. D. 4. This is of no practical importance, however. All we have to do is to place the birth of Christ in the year 4, instead of 1. All history for nearly 1,900 years has dated from the era fixed by Dionysius, and to change would be to introduce utter confusion in chronology, without any good and sufficient reason.

Voting of Aliens.

S. L., Latty, O., asks: "How long must a foreigner reside in this country to be allowed to vote? Are the laws of the different states the same as to the length of time necessary to become a voter?"

The right to vote is conferred by the state, while naturalization is conferred by the United States. The two things are quite distinct. No alien can be naturalized until after five years' residence, or one whose parents were naturalized while he was under 21 years of age. Even after naturalization he is not entitled to vote unless the laws of the state confer that right on him; and, on the other hand, some of the states allow aliens to vote before being fully naturalized. The following states do this: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin. These all allow aliens to vote who have "declared their intention" of becoming citizens—that is, have "taken out their first papers."

Children of Aliens.

P. R. D., Winston, Mo., writes: "A and his wife come from England to the United States and have sons born to them here. A is never naturalized, but is still living here. Are his sons citizens of the United States, and if the sons die where they reside when they arrive at majority?"

Yes. The sixteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States expressly declares that "all persons born * * * in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state in which they reside."

Johnson Was Impeached.

J. M. H., Edgar, Neb., asks: "Was President Johnston impeached?"

Yes. He was impeached, but was acquitted. To impeach is merely to formally charge with an offense, and on that the accused must be tried.

"Old Christmas."

E. E. M., Grelton, O., asks: "Was there a day known in olden times as Old Christmas? I have been told that it was."

Yes. When the calendar was reformed by Pope Gregory, England adopted the new style in September, 1752, the 3d of the month being called the 14th. Hence Christmas came eleven days earlier under New Style than under Old Style. The church festival of the Epiphany comes on January 6, and as this happened by Old Style, the country people in England got to calling it "Old Christmas."

The Largest Cities.

L. C. S., Mangen, O.: The ten largest cities in the world are as follows:

Names.	Population.
London	4,231,431
Paris	2,447,957
Canton, China (estimated)	1,600,000
Berlin	1,573,244
New York	1,513,501
Tokio	1,389,684
Vienna	1,364,548
Chicago	1,208,576
Philadelphia	1,044,891
St. Petersburg	1,035,439

The Sherman Law.

S. G., Ola, Idaho, asks whether "the government, under the purchasing clause of the sherman act, paid the coinage value for silver or commercial value?"

The price was the commercial value, of course. The Sherman law is a fine example of an effort to put one of the theories of the free coinage men into practice, and its utter failure. That law was called the Sherman law because Senator Sherman was chairman of the Senate finance committee, which prepared the law; and he, as chairman, reported it to the Senate, and it thus was named after him.

That committee made a careful investigation as to the number of ounces of silver mined in the United States per year, and of the amount used yearly in the arts. After deducting the latter, it found that an average of 54,000,000 ounces was the output left per year. Hence they provided for buying this amount every year, at 4,500,000 ounces per month, at the market price, paying therefor in treasury notes.

The silver men contended then, as they do now, that the reason the price of silver was so low was because it was not used in coinage. So the theory of the committee was, that if the government would furnish a market for the silver mined every year, except that used in the arts, the price ought to rise to the figure at which the silver dollar would be at par—$1.29 per ounce. The law provides that no higher rate than that should be paid.

But the free silver men's theory did not work. A speculative boom in silver started, engineered by speculators. The price run up to about $1.12 an ounce for two or three days, until the speculators had unloaded the silver bullion they held; then it fell in price to the old limit, and then began to drop, because the mine-owners put more mines at work and produced more. So while the purchasing clause was a law, the price of silver reached the lowest point ever touched. When the purchasing clause was repealed, many silver mines of the less productive class shut down, the output was reduced, and the price has remained colerably stable ever since—simply because production is not in excess of the demand.

The Gold Standard.

H. J. K., Reeder's Mills, Iowa, asks: "Will you explain what is the gold standard?"

All money is either coin, containing its face value in bullion, or credit money, redeemable in such coin. Such coin is called the money of final redemption.

When the money of final redemption is gold the country is said to have a gold standard.

The United States has had the gold standard actually since 1854, and by law ever since 1873.

When the coin of final redemption is silver the country is on a silver standard, like Mexico, Japan, and most of the South American countries.

The purchasing power of coin of final redemption depends entirely upon the market value of the amount of metal in the coin.

For instance, the Mexican dollar contains only about 50 cents' worth of silver bullion; hence it will be only half as much as our United States dollar.

Our gold dollar will buy a dollar's worth in any civilized country, because it contains a dollar's value of gold bullion.

Our silver dollar contains a little less silver than a Mexican silver dollar, and, outside of the United States, it will buy only about a half dollar's worth of anything.

In the United States, is passes for the same value as the gold dollar, because any bank or merchant will exchange it for a greenback dollar, and the Treasury will redeem the greenback in a gold dollar.

Since the reason the silver dollar is held up to about twice its actual bullion is because the government, by the two exchanges just explained, really redeems silver dollars in gold.

If the gold reserve of the Treasury were allowed to be all drawn out, so that there were no gold left, when greenbacks were presented for redemption it could only pay out silver dollars.

The result would be, that the silver dollar would only buy half as much as it now does; the greenbacks, the Treasury notes of 1890, and the silver certificates, would also lose half of their purchasing power.

Prepare for Spring

If you were about to journey to a warmer or colder climate you would make careful preparations.

Besides taking a supply of lighter or heavier clothing, as the case might be, you would thoughtfully select a stock of medicines as safeguards to keep you in good health.

Now we are all about to change to a warmer climate, though not of our own volition, and what is more reasonable than to take a reliable medicine to resist the debilitating effects of higher temperatures?

Hood's Sarsaparilla is just the medicine needed. It thoroughly expels from the blood the impurities which have accumulated during the winter, increases the appetite and improves the digestion, drives away that tired feeling and nervousness, and gives the strength and vigor without which we cannot appreciate beautiful Spring. Do not neglect giving careful attention to the condition of your blood, *now*.

Hood's Sarsaparilla does its work as a medicine for the blood thoroughly and well. No disease germ or other impurity can withstand the vitalizing and blood-purifying power of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

N. B. Make no mistake. Be sure to get Hood's and only Hood's.

The cures accomplished by Hood's Sarsaparilla tell what it does more eloquently than any argument which can be written. Read the frank statement below:

"Last spring, on account of overwork and bad humors, I became very much run down. About June a scrofula bunch appeared on the left side of my collar bone. It was very sore continually, and after a time my left arm began to feel disagreeable. In a short time it pained me nearly all the time. With that and the scrofula I was in perfect misery all through the summer. I became so bad that my friends tried to get me to have a doctor, but I thought I would try Hood's Sarsaparilla. I have taken five bottles and part of the sixth and am feeling like myself again. I have gained flesh rapidly. The scrofula bunch and lameness have all gone, and I feel like a new creature." MISS HATTIE M. CLARK, Parkman, Me.

"For over a year I suffered with abscesses, and being advised by many to try Hood's Sarsaparilla I commenced with one bottle. My appetite improved and I gained in every way and seeing such good results I took four bottles and am happy to say I am well and have no abscesses, even though doctors said I could not be cured without an operation." MRS. J. M. KIERMAN, Kingston, N. Y.

The success of Hood's Sarsaparilla in severest forms of blood diseases breaks every record in medical history. Even tenacious cases like goitre or scrofula in the neck yield to its wonderful curative powers. Read this from Mr. A. N. Van Vlymen, dealer in stoves, tin and hardware, Chicago:

"My neck was badly swollen, the glands becoming larger each year. I doctored with four different physicians and then gave it up, thinking I could not be cured without an operation. I read about a cure by Hood's Sarsaparilla of one who had been suffering similarly. I then commenced to take Hood's Sarsaparilla and have kept it up ever since. The swelling or goitre on my neck is now all gone and I am cured.' A. N. VAN VLYMEN, 649 West 103d Street, Chicago.

"Five years ago I bruised my ankle and from that time until lately I have suffered terribly with an ulcerating sore, unable to walk. Prescriptions and other remedies failed. Finally I read what wonderful cures Hood's Sarsaparilla was effecting for other invalids and so I purchased six bottles. I am now taking the last bottle and find myself able to walk and do my work, and the sore is almost healed. I cannot praise Hood's Sarsaparilla too much." MRS. C. A. PONTIUS, Odin, Illinois.

Purify the Blood

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Voting of Aliens.

J. S., Sardis, O., asks: "How are the free cities of Hamburg, Bremen and Lubec governed, governed?"

They are themselves sovereign states, and members of the German Empire. They are the remnants of the once numerous "imperial" cities, or cities not subject to any superior lord, but immediately under the imperial government.

Hamburg embraces not only the city of that name, but a small area of territory adjacent, covering 158 square miles, and has one vote in the federal council (Bundesrath), and three deputies in the Reichstag.

Bremen embraces 99 square miles. It has one vote in the federal council, and one in the Reichstag.

Lubec embraces 109 square miles; its local government is republican, administered by a senate of 14 life members, and by 120 delegates elected for six years.

Mrs. Maybrick.

L. E. M., Angola, Ind.: Mrs. Maybrick was an American by birth, but married an Englishman. The latter died under suspicious circumstances. At the inquest arsenic was found in the body. His wife was tried for his murder, and after a long trial, with much conflicting evidence, she was found guilty, but the sentence of death was commuted to life imprisonment. The efforts that have been made by Americans to have her pardoned are because of the theory that Maybrick habitually used arsenic.

Tubal Cain.

F. A. D., Canoble Lake, N. H., asks: "Who was Tubal Cain?"

All that any one knows about him is the mention in Genesis iv. 22.

Gen. Marion.

M. E. R.—who does not deserve a reply for not complying with the rules above—asks this:

"Will you kindly publish the name of the British officer who dined with Marion, where the meal consisted of baked potatoes served on bark?"

Since the officer has never been given. It is very doubtful if the incident ever occurred. It was first narrated, we think, in the life of Marion, written by an erratic minister named Weems, who also wrote a life of Washington in which he told the famous cherry-tree story, and others of similar character, all of which were false and invented by Weems himself. We have no idea the story of Marion is true.

Cain's Wife.

G. R. S., Rochester, N. Y., writes: "According to the Bible, Adam and Eve had no daughters, only two sons, Cain and Abel. Their son Cain got married; whose daughter did he then marry?"

You know quite as much about the matter as does any one else. There is no record in the Bible or anywhere but in the Bible, and that throws no light on the subject of Cain's wife.

Modern Biblical criticism—the so-called "higher criticism"—considers the account of the creation of Adam and Eve, and so on, as a legendary story, current among the children of Abraham, and of no historical value.

Letters of Marque and Reprisal.

W. E. L., Adams, Neb., asks: "Are there two separate letters in a letter of marque and reprisal?"

No. A "letter of marque and reprisal" is a commission issued by a government in time of war, authorizing a private person to take the property of the government with which it is at war, or of its citizens or subject, in reprisal for the injuries done the state or its citizens or subjects. The word "marque" is from the old French word "mare," meaning a boundary, and refers to the authorization of the person receiving the letters to go beyond the boundaries of his own country or upon the high seas, in pursuance of the object for which the letter is issued.

Bonds and Revenue.

C. F. E., Ann Arbor, Mich. asks: "How much has the debt of the United States been increased during the present administration? How much of this increase is due to lack of revenue to pay current expenses, and how much may be attributed to the maintenance of the gold reserve or other causes?"

Including the recent bond issue the total amount of bonds issued under the Cleveland administration is $222,000,000, adding over $11,000,000 per year to the interest burden. The deficiency in revenues so far —up to February—has been over $72,000,000, and this much of the greenbacks in the treasury, paid in to take out gold, has been used to meet that deficiency.

Free Coinage.

X. E. C., Beersheba Springs, Tenn., asks: "If free coinage at 16 to 1 became a law, how many dollars would a person get from the United States mint if he had sent 1,000 ounces of silver bars for coinage, and what would be his profit at present silver prices?"

We will assume that it is standard silver—that is, one-tenth alloy. A silver dollar contains 412½ grains of standard silver. There are 480 grains in one ounce, and 480 × 1,000 grains in 1,000 ounces. This would coin 1,163 silver dollars, and a fraction of a dollar over.

The price of silver at this writing is 67¼ cents per ounce. His 1,000 ounces would thus be worth $675 in gold. Supposing the silver dollar maintained its parity with the gold dollar, the profit to the bullion owner would be $488 on 1,000 ounces of silver.

As a matter of fact, the value of the silver dollar and of all paper money would drop to the value of the silver in it, just as soon as the free coinage law was passed.

The Balance of Trade.

J. D. W., Elbert, Colo., writes: "In the Question Bureau of The Weekly Blade of February 13, you say in answer to J. F. E., Golden: 'We buy abroad more than we sell abroad, and the balance must be paid in gold.' In the same column you answer W. M. C., Princeton, N. J.: 'The excess of our exports and imports, not including gold, are given in a table which follows, that is made from official figures.' This table covers the last 23 fiscal years, and shows a balance of trade in our favor for the last two years, and all the others except five. Please reconcile the two answers."

The point you seek to make lies in the exception we noted—that the table of the balance of trade did not take gold and silver imports and exports into the calculation. The securities of American railways, manufactories, etc., bought abroad do not pass through the custom houses, and hence no record can be made of them. The amount is estimated at something like $2,000,000. The interest and dividends on these make a very large annual total.

Then we pay at least $150,000,000 a year freight on goods carried in foreign vessels, and in passenger traffic. All of this is a factor in the final balance of international trade, but there is no way by which it can appear in the treasury statements. If our export trade does not exceed our imports by enough to cover all this expenditure, the real balance of trade is against us. Unless the balance of merchandise trade runs something like $200,000,000 a year in our favor, gold has to go out to meet the interest and dividend account, and freight and travel charges.

Our figures were from the official treasury reports. We do not know why there is a discrepancy between these and the figures from the authority you mention, unless the latter used the exports only of American merchandise. Our table includes both the exports the exports of imported foreign goods, as well as of American merchandise.

Qualifications for Voting.

W. W. Shibboleth, Kas., asks: "What state or states of the Union require a property qualification to vote?"

No state requires a property qualification directly. South Carolina and Florida require the payment of poll tax for the two years preceding the election; Georgia that all his taxes shall have been paid since 1877; Pennsylvania, that he must have paid tax within two years, if 22 years old or over; Tennessee, must have paid poll tax of the preceding year. Robert T. Lincoln lives in Chicago.

Coast Line of States.

H. J. D., Grand Ridge, Ill., asks: "Which one of the states of the Union has the most coast line?"

Florida. Its coast line covers about 10 degrees of latitude and about 4 of longitude. California comes next. Its coast line covering about 10 degrees of latitude.

Too Many at Once.

S. C. S., Bradford, Ill.: We are sorry, but you ask us eleven questions in a bunch. We can not transgress the rule by answering one question at a time. We have not room to answer so many to one inquirer, and did we transgress we would have a shoal of such questions. We will answer two or three which all belong together, treating of one subject, so that one answer will include all, but not more than one when they are different subjects. You can get any newsdealer to order for you the Tribune Almanac, or the World Almanac, for 25 cents, which will give you the answers to all your queries.

Rev. Elijah Kellogg.

E. R. G., Granville, Idaho: Rev. Elijah Kellogg was born in Portland, Me., May 20, 1813. After a college and a theological course, he was ordained pastor of the Congregational church at Harpswell, Me., in 1841. From 1865 to 1875 he was the editor of the Boston Seaman's Friend society. Since then he has been engaged in writing juvenile books and delivering lectures. He is the author of the noted "address of Spartacus to the gladiators," which every school-boy has declaimed. His books include the Elm Island Series, the Pleasant Cove Series, the Whispering Pine Series, the Good Times Series, and the Forecastle Series. We do not know whether he is still living.

Miscellaneous.

Z. S. C., Ossian, Ind.: We have no means of knowing.

M. B. P., Rockland, Me.: We have not a formula for the paint.

M. W., Hopewell, Pa.: Hon. J. J. Cheeseman is President of the republic of Liberia.

J. R. B., Lore City, O.: There are no statistics for the entire world, such as you ask for.

L. W., Queens, W. Va.: There is an United States land office at Gainesville, Florida.

H. C. L., Greentown, Ind.: We know of no place to find the speech except in the files of daily papers of the time.

J. A. J., Sarcoxie, Mo.: So far as we can find, there is no name to the isthmus connecting Nova Scotia to New Brunswick.

R. B. S., Osterdock, Iowa: As we understand it, the Arkansaw Traveler is music only, not a song. We can not print music.

E. S. W., Buffalo Gap, S. D.: Write to the Secretary of the Interior at Washington. Don't send us questions unless you give your name.

W. H. J., Martinsburg, W. Va.: No, we can not furnish Longstreet's book. Write to the publisher, whose address is given in the notice, asking the price.

C. S. O., New Florence, Mo.: We can not spare time space to publish controversial articles and invite discussion. We tried it years ago, and got letters enough to fill the paper twice every week.

A. L. A., Louisville, Ky.: Hon. H. L. Morey was never governor or lieutenant-governor of Ohio, though he has been a candidate for the gubernatorial nomination. We never heard him called "Gov." Morey. If he is, it is by intimate friends, in a joking way.

S. B., Stanford, Mo.: We think that matter is one for the probate court, which probated the will, to settle. Please read the rules. We can not undertake to answer legal questions, either of this state or any other. The reason is, that on obscure points we would have to consult a lawyer, any pay him for his advice, and we can not undertake to do that.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. Noyes, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Spoiled His Chance to Aim.

A recruit having been sworn into one of the Sussex regiments of volunteers was doing his class firing to make himself efficient. Recruit's first shot was yards to the left of target.

Sergeant in charge of range—Aim more to the right, there, you man.

Recruit's next shot was still yards to the left.

Sergeant—Why the ——— —— don't you aim more to the right?

Recruit—So I did.

Sergeant—Well, I'll stand close to you and see how you hold your rifle. Now aim. Why, you ——— ——, you are shutting the wrong eye.

Recruit—Well, I can't see with the t'other.—London Sporting Times.

A World at Stake.

"Columbus took big chances when he illustrated the fact that the world was round."

"How so?"

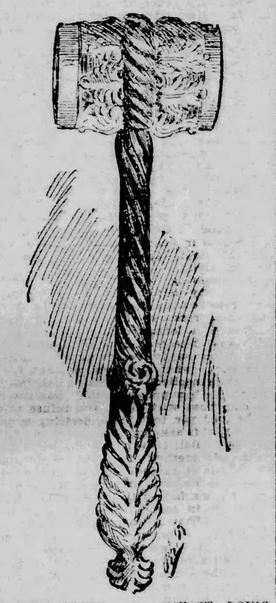
"Suppose the egg had been a bad one!"

GAVEL FOR ST. LOUIS CONVENTION

Made From a Log Which Lincoln Hewed at New Salem, Ill.

Lincoln's memory will not be allowed to wane at the Republican national convention. Every time the chairman raps for order he will bring down on his table a gavel made from a log hewn by the immortal statesman-President.

When Lincoln lived at New Salem Ill., in 1832, he built a log cabin for a home.



LINCOLN GAVEL FOR ST. LOUIS CONVENTION.

He was clerking in a village store at the time, but worked out of hours to raise the house. It is from one of the logs in this house the gavel is being made.

W. H. Bartels, Carthage, Ill., whose fame as a maker of gavels has been augmented by his workmanship on the little mallet which rapped the World's Fair open, is now employed at the important task of making this Lincoln gavel. One end of it will be mounted with silver and engraved as follows:

"Made by W. H. Bartels, Carthage, Ill., from a log of the cabin built by Abraham Lincoln, 1832, at New Salem, Ill."

The inscription on the gold-mounted end of the mallet will read:

"National Republican convention held at St. Louis, June 16, 1896, nominating for President."

Senator O. P. Berry, of Carthage, will present the gavel to the convention.

THE DUCHESS RING.

The Novelty of the Hour in the Line of Jewelry.

This is the duchess or after-dinner ring. It is also the novelty of the hour in the line of jewelry. It has been manufactured by a Fifth avenue goldsmith for a member of New York's One Hundred and Fifty, says the New York Journal. The happy possessor will wear it only in the evening. It is odd, extremely effective, and it costs $500. It consists of a band of gold, with an opal showing blue lights in a clear setting, surrounded by diamonds. Two tiny scrolls of gold project on either side, and a huge shield, formed of many scrolls, is studded with diamonds and reaches beyond the knuckle. It is worn only on the middle finger.

Not a Bargain Counter Drunkard.

John Kemplar, a gentleman of ample tankage, could hardly believe his ears when Magistrate Cuddich, in the Essex Market Police court yesterday, fined him $3 for drunkenness. That, too, after he had sent for witnesses who swore that they had seen him on Saturday afternoon when he was sober, and had only 26 cents in his pocket. "I am not kicking, judge," he said, as he was led away, "but you can't know me. I'm no bargain counter drunkard."—New York Herald.

Ready to Sympathize.

Maria—It says here they're very particular in England about who'll go down first to dinner.

Silas—Don't they have enough for everybody?—Puck.

How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

The Important Part Left Out.

Hazel—Oh, bother! I've used up all my note paper, and my letter isn't half finished yet.

Grace—Why, you've written eight pages, haven't you? Isn't that enough?

Hazel—Yes, but I haven't begun on the postscript yet.—Somerville (Mass.) Journal.

Light on the Mystery.

First Detective—Ah-ha! Now I understand why the safe was not blown open. This burglary was committed by a woman.

Second Detective—How do you know?

First Detective—Here's the hairpin.—Judge.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

The fifteenth volume in the Heroes of the Nations is entitled Charles XII. and the Collapse of the Swedish Empire, 1682-1719, by R. N. Bain. This is one of the most deeply interesting volumes of this splendid series. This character has always been one of the most fascinating ones in history. Charles XII. inherited the throne when a boy of fifteen. His father had arranged for the succession by designating five regents, who, with the Queen Dowager as president, should guide the ship of state. The boy showed wonderful acuteness and precocity, and some of the ambitious nobles, with the hope of personal gains, flattered the boy's pride and ambition, and secretly worked a plot for him to assume the reins of government. They were strong enough and powerful enough to overturn the senate and accomplish their work, and the boy king ascended the throne. But the conspiring noblemen were disappointed in the boy. He rebelled against his advisers, and chose his own aids, and caused widespread alarm. But he was full of the bravery which all admire, and though he brought his country to a final collapse from the position of dominance which it had occupied for 150 years prior to his reign by his constant wars, he still possessed much that was admirable in his character. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York City.

The second volume of Rational Theology by John Milton Williams has been received. This, like its predecessor, is made up largely of reprints of articles contributed to magazines. In them the author has discussed with more or less thoroughness the more important topics that make up Systematic Theology. He endeavors to set forth the New School or Free Will system of theology in distinction from the Old School or Calvinistic scheme. He believes that the theology of the Bible is a rational theology when clearly presented, and it puts no hindrances in the path of recurring prodigals. How well he has carried out his endeavor the reader must decide for himself. Published in neat form by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

A History of Money and Prices, by J. Schoenhof, is Vol. 86 in the series of Questions of the Day published by the Putnams. A great deal is said and written upon the subject of money and how to make it in these days probably because it occupies public thought more than anything else. The little volume of Mr. Schoenhof goes back to the thirteenth century and gives us a terse, clear history of the thing the love of which "is the root of all evil." The volume is extremely interesting as giving a somewhat new idea regarding the present condition of monetary affairs. He does not believe that the quantities of gold and silver in circulation have anything to do with the rise and fall of prices, but that the latter are the results of all of the factors involved in the processes of production and distribution. He believes in the fullest measure of individual freedom, which cannot be had under the present conditions of protective duties, monopolies, privileges by legislative enactments, etc. The volume is published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York City.

For Plain Women Only, by George Fleming, is a volume belonging to The Mayfair Set. It is made up of a series of talks between the supposably observant man and his aunt with regard to women, in which he gives his opinions, drawing forth many wise and quaint observations in reply. The reader will be greatly entertained with these chapters, some of the headings of which are as follows: On Mirrors. On Bonnets. On Ruffles. On Imperfections. On Wallflands. Some Reflections and No Moral. On Tailor-made Women, etc. The title page is very pretty and the work of Patten Wilson. New York City, publish the volume.

The Story of a Dream, by Ethel Maude Colson, the writer of many beautiful songs. What she has written under this title is mystical, pathetic and tells the story of a truth that what a man sows that shall he also reap. The dreamer related are evidently to teach this lesson. They are full of sadness, many will say morbid, but they are well told. The volume is published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

The Upper Room, by John Watson, better known as Ian Maclaren, is a little volume belonging to the series, Little Books on Religion. Some idea of the work of this excellent writer may be obtained by the following headings of the chapters: The Guestroom of the House; The Guest Chamber of the Soul; The Twelve; The Shadow of the Cross; A Last Wish; The Bequest of Jesus, and The Lord's Tryste. It is published by Dodd, Mead & Co., New York city.

Strangers at Lisconnell, by Jane Barlow, the author of Bogland Studies, Kerrigan's Quality, is the second in the series of Irish Idyls. The sketches are abounding in life and movement crowded with incidents in the life and characteristic of the Irish people. The dialect stories and interviews are not written in an unknown tongue and yet are so fully Irish as to be nothing else. The stories are clean, pathetic and reveal Irish life as it is and was upon the Green Island. There is something very lovable and attractive in Irish character, and the sketches increase this in the hands of "master of Strangers at Lisconnell. Published by Dodd, Mead & Co., New York City.

In the Globe Library comes Caterina Soave, by Gemma Ferruggia, translated from the Italian. It is full of the Italian passion of love, jealousy, tragedy. The story of a woman who was conscious of a double life and who tells of what she does when commanded by her second self. Published in paper by G. W. Dillingahm, New York city.

In the Lakewood series come two volumes in the series of the Prose Dramas of Henrik Ibsen. This is the first collected version of the plays of the celebrated Norwegian writer, and will doubtless be welcome to his many admirers in this country. The volumes are published by the United States Book company, 310 Sixth avenue, New York city.

A Little Wizard is a new historical tale by Stanley J. Weyman. The scene is laid in Yorkshire, England. It is a tale of the days of the Stuarts, in the time of Cromwell, just after the battle of Marston Moor and Naseby, and before the surrender by the Scot's army of Charles I. The tale reflects incidents in the careers of two youth, the son of a cavalier gentleman, who has sacrificed his life for the royalist cause, and one of whom, the "Little Wizard," figures pathetically in the story, under the care of a feebleminded family servitor, who has sinister connections with the Puritan Roundheads. It is a fascinating story, with all the vigor in it that characizes this author's writings. D. Appleton & Co., 112 Fifth avenue, New York city.

The Bachelor and the Chafing Dish, with a Dissertation on Chums, by Deshler Welch, is a delightful little book and will strike chords in a goodly number of people. The recipes gathered as the gems of good cookery from famous chefs and from the clubs, give positive value to the chapters, romantic interest and relieve every page from dullness. The Language of the Menu or definitions of the various French terms, will enlighten a good many people. Some of the contents are as follows: The Chumship Entre Nous, Chasing the Rabbit, Mushrooms for "Jim," Jim's Dinner, My Scotch Friend, A Dinner in a Shot, Nym Crinkle's Diapason. The Table. The Language of the Menu. Savings of Savarin, Salads and Sauces. The Devil Fish, The Auscocat and Chafing Dish. Published by F. Tennyson Neely, Chicago.

Mariposilla, by Mrs. Charles Stewart Daggett, is a well-told story, full of pathos, with little plot and yet at no time without great interest. The scene is laid in Southern California, and not the least attraction of the book is the enthusiastic description of the beauty of the country. Mariposilla, a Spanish name signifying butterfly, is a beautiful girl, and her brief existence full of light and brilliancy is symbolized in her name. In the character of Mrs. Sanderson the reader will find a most clever character. She is a woman of the world of great tact and one who knows how to bend everybody to her purpose. She plays with the poor little Spanish girl, making a sacrifice of her for her son's amusement in a way to excite sympathy. The story is told exceedingly well. Its charm being largely the air of reality which it possesses. Rand McNally & Co., Chicago, are the publishers.

The Sea Wolves, by Max Pemberton, is published in pamphlet form in the Globe Library. It is a story full of incident and exciting adventure, which holds the reader's attention to the end as most sensational stories do. It is published by Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Premature Dropping of Lambs.

R. M., Mount Pleasant: Abortion in sheep is not common. When it does occur the ewe should at once be removed from the flock and all evidence of the trouble removed, for if the dropping is allowed to lay for even a short time, the smell is likely to cause the same disease in other ewes, and it may run through nearly the entire flock. The surface of the ground where the ewe aborted should be removed and the place sprinkled over with carbolic acid 1 oz.; water, 1 gallon. In stirring in the acid use a wooden paddle, and have the water a little more than lukewarm. When so much abortion has taken place as in your flock, it will be well for you to clean up the entire pen thoroughly and sprinkle with the acid and water. If you had told the editor of that which you feed your sheep he could judge better of the cause of the first abortions. The first case may have brought the aborting of the other ewes. If you do not at once clean up well more cases are apt to occur. Excessive use of roots in cold weather, or the distention of the stomach with cold, watery food will destroy the life of the foetus, and result in abortion. Chasing ewes with dogs, or making the ewes run, is a fruitful source of the trouble. The eye straw that has had a heavy dressing of superphosphates, will abort at times. If you are feeding oil cake reduce it at once until all danger has passed.

Mare's Belly Swells.

E. T. B., Wisconsin: It is not safe to give medicine to a mare that has been with foal for a length of time, but if your mare has not been more than six weeks in this condition it will not be out of the way to administer medicine. In dropsy of the belly, the essentials to success in treatment are: The best of food given at regular hours; good grooming and comfortable quarters. Give 1 oz. of spirits of sweet nitre every other day until two doses are given. Then give the following for a week: Sulphate of copper 1 drachm; iodine 1 drachm. This much for a dose twice a day, in a pint of water. If the bowels show constipation, give a few bran mashes. Wash the part that is broken or abraded with warm water and soap well, and put on a very little of this once a day for four or five days, washing off before each application with warm water and soap: Biniodide of mercury 1 drachm; lead 2 ozs. Apply this for about five days. After the above treatment for one week, give every third day 1 oz. Fowler's solution of arsenic as a drench.

Lame Ducks.

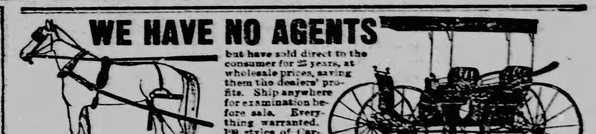
T. W. H., Missouri: Disease is less prevalent among ducks than chickens. Leg weakness in ducks comes almost entirely from damp quarters. They should have a floor made of boards upon which to sleep. At all events the ground on which they sleep should be very dry and have straw spread over it. The best thing you can do will be to keep the ducks in perfectly dry quarters and feed them on feed that is not fattening, such as wheat, barley, bran, with a little fresh meat and onions, boiled, and keep the drakes away from the ducks that are lame. Warm feed with a little pepper in it is good, but pepper should not be given all the time.

To Rid Horses of Lice.

Munch, Missouri: It is not easy to get rid of lice if poultry is kept near the horses. There are two kinds of lice that attack the horse. There are several remedies, any one of which is efficient. The following are as good as any: 1—Powdered staavesacre seed, 2 ozs.; water, 1 quart. Boil for 20 minutes. Be careful if this is applied not to allow the horse to lick his skin while this decoction is on him. 2—Sponge the skin with tenzine. In using this be careful not to have a lamp or flame near the animal. 3—1½ pounds of tobacco and 1½ gallons of water. Steep the tobacco in the water for two hours. Sponge well. If there are fowls in the stable, they must be locked after, as they spread the parasites. Before applying any of the above remedies, curry the animal well. Then clean out all the straw and hair in the stall, sprinkle lime on the floor, and with a small swab dipped in kerosene damp oil rub along all the cracks in the stall. After a week's time repeat the lice application on the horse to kill the breaknits. After a day's time wash the horse with warm water and soap, and after rubbing him well, put on a blanket until thoroughly dry.

BURPEE'S SEEDS, Philadelphia

A postal card addressed as above will bring you BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL for 1896, if *you intend to purchase Seeds*, otherwise the price is ten cents (less than cost). It is a bright BOOK of 184 pages, with hundreds of illustrations and colored plates painted from nature. It tells all about the BEST SEEDS that Grow.



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Artichokes.

Editor Blade Farmstead—The cultivation of artichokes

Talmage's Sermon.

HOW THE NAME OF CHRIST GROWS IN MEN'S FAVOR.

The Promise, "Unto Him Shall the Gathering of the People Be," Is Being Kept.

Washington, Feb. 24.—This sermon sounds the note of triumph, a note that all will be glad to hear in these times, when so many are uttering and writing jeremiads of discouragement. Dr. Talmage took as his text, Genesis xlix. 10: "Unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

Through a supernatural lens, or what I might call a prophescope, dying Jacob looks down through the corridors of the centuries until he sees Christ the center of all popular attraction and the greatest being in all the world so everywhere acknowledged. It was not always so. The world tried hard to put him down and to put him out. In the year 1200, while excavating for antiquities fifty-three miles northeast of Rome, a copper-plate tablet was found containing the death warrant of the Lord Jesus Christ, reading in this wise:

"In the year 17 of the empire of Tiberius Caesar, and on the 25th of March, I, Pontius Pilate, Governor of the Praetorre, condemn Jesus of Nazereth to die between two thieves, Quintus Cornelius to lead him forth to the place of execution."

The death warrant was signed by several names. First, by Daniel, rabbi Pharisee; secondly, by Johannes, rabbi; thirdly, by Raphael; fourthly, by Capel, a private citizen. This capital punishment was executed according to law. The name of the thief crucified on the right hand side of Christ was Dismas; the name of the thief crucified on the left hand side of Christ was Gestus. Pontius Pilate describing the tragedy, says the whole world lighted candles from noon until night. Thirty-three years of maltreatment. They ascribe his birth to bastardy and his death to excreciation. A wall of the city, built about those times and recently exposed by archaeologists, shows a caricature of Jesus Christ, evidencing the contempt in which he was held by many in His day—that caricature on the wall representing a cross and a donkey nailed to it, and under it the inscription: "This is the Christ who the people worship." But I rejoice that that day is gone by. Our Christ is coming out from under the world's abuse. The most popular name on earth to-day is the name of Christ. Where he had one friend, Christ has a thousand friends.

The scoffers have become the worshipers. Of the twenty most celebrated infidels in Great Britain in our day, sixteen have come back to Christ, trying to undo the blatant mischief of their lives—sixteen out of the twenty. Every man who writes a letter or signs a document, wittingly or unwittingly, honors Jesus Christ. We date everything as B. C., or A. D.—B. C., before Christ; A. D., Anno Domini, in the year of our Lord. All the ages of history on the pivot of the upright beam of the Cross of the Son of God, B. C., A. D. I do not care what you call him—whether Conqueror, or King, or Morning Star, or Sun of Righteousness, or Balm of Gilead, or Lebanon Cedar, or Brother, or Friend, or take the name used in verse from which I take my text, and call him Shiloh, which means his Son, or the Tranquilator, or the Peacemaker, Shiloh. I only want to tell you that "unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

In the first place, the people are gathered around Christ for pardon. No sensible man or healthfully ambitious man is satisfied with his past life.

A fool may think he is all right. A sensible man knows he is not. I do not care who the thoughtful man is, the review of his lifetime behavior before God and man gives to him no especial satisfaction. "Oh," he says, "there have been so many things I have done I ought not to have done, there have been so many things I have said I ought never to have said, there have been so many things I have written I ought never to have written, there have been so many things I have thought I ought never to have thought, I must somehow get things readjusted. I must somehow have the past reconstructed; there are days and months and years which cry out against me in horrible vociferation." Ah! my brother, Christ adjusts the past by obliterating it. He does not erase the record of our misdoing with a dash of ink from a register's pen, but lifting his right hand, crushed, red at the palm, he puts it against his bleeding brow, and then against his pierced side, and with the crimson accumulation of all those wounds he rubs out the accusatory chapter. He blots out our iniquities. Oh! never be anxious about the future; better be anxious about the past. I put it not at the end of my sermon; I put it at the front; Mercy and pardon through Shiloh, the sin-pardoning Christ. "Unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

"Oh," says one man, "I have for forty years been as bad as I could be, and is there any mercy for me?" Mercy for you. "Oh," says some one here, "I had a grand ancestry, the holiest of fathers and the tenderest of mothers, and for my perfidy there is no excuse. Do you think there is any mercy for me?" Mercy for you. "But," says another man, "I fear I have committed what they call the unpardonable sin, and the Bible says if a man commits that sin he is neither to be forgiven in this world nor the world to come. Do you think there is any mercy for me?" The fact that you have any solicitude about the matter at all proves positively that you have not committed the unpardonable sin. Mercy for you, O, the grace of God which bringeth salvation.

The grace of God! Let us take the surveyor's chain and try to measure God's mercy through Jesus Christ. Let one surveyor take that chain and go to the north, and another surveyor take that chain and go to the south, and another surveyor take that chain and go to the east, and another surveyor take that chain and go to the west, and then make a report of the square miles of that vast kingdom of God's mercy. Aye! you will have to wait to all eternity for the report of that measurement. It cannot be measured. Paul tried to climb the height over of it, and he went height over height, altitude over altitude, mountain above mountain, and then sank down in discouragement and gave it up, for he saw Sierra Nevadas beyond and Matterhorns beyond, and waving his hands back to us in the plains, he says: "Past finding out; unsearchable, that in all things he might have the pre-eminence." You notice that nearly all the sinners mentioned as pardoned in the Bible were great sinners—David a great sinner, Paul a great sinner, Rahab a great sinner, Magdalen a great sinner, the prodigal son a great sinner. The world easily understood how Christ could pardon a half-and-half sinner, but what the world wants to be persuaded of is that Christ will forgive the worst sinner, the hardest sinner, the oldest sinner, the most inexcusable sinner. To the sin-pardoning Shiloh let all the gathering of the people be.

But, I remarked again, the people will gather around Christ as a sympathizer. Oh, we all want sympathy. I hear people talk as though they were independent of it. None of us could live without sympathy. When parts of our family are away how lonely the house seems until they all get home! But alas! for those who never come home. Sometimes it seems as if it must be impossible. What, will their feet never again come over the threshold? Will they never again sit with us at the table? Will they never again kneel with us at family prayer? Shall we never again look into their sunny faces? Shall we never again on earth take counsel with them for our work? Ah, me! who can stand under these griefs? O Christ, thou canst do more for a bereft soul than any one else. It is he who stands beside us to tell of the resurrection. It is he that came to bid peace. It is he that comes to us and breathes into us the spirit of submission until we can look up from the wreck and ruin of our brightest expectations and say: "Father, not my will, but thine be done." Oh ye who are bereft, ye anguish bitten, come into this refuge. The roll of those who came for relief to Christ is larger and larger. Unto this Shiloh of omnipotent sympathy the gathering of the people shall be. Oh, that Christ would stand by all these empty cradles and all these desolated homesteads, and all these broken hearts and persuade us it is well.

The world cannot offer you any help at such a time. Suppose the world comes and offers you money. You would rather live on a crust in a cellar and have your departed loved ones with you, than live in palatial surroundings and they away. Suppose the world offers you its honors to console you. What is the Presidency to Abraham Lincoln when little Willie lies dead in the White House? Perhaps the world comes and says: "Time will cure it all." Ah, there are griefs that have raged on for thirty years and are raging yet. And yet hundreds have been comforted, thousands have been comforted, millions have been comforted, and Christ has done the work. Oh, what you want is sympathy. The world's heart of sympathy beats very irregularly. Plenty of sympathy when we do not want it, and often when we are in appalling need of it, no sympathy. There are multitudes of people dying for want of sympathy—sympathy in their work, sympathy in their fatigue, sympathy in their bereavements, sympathy in their financial losses, sympathy in their physical ailments, sympathy in their spiritual anxieties, sympathy in the time of declining years—wide, deep, high, everlasting, almighty sympathy. We must have it, and Christ gives it. That is the cord with which he is going to draw all nations to Him.

At the story of punishment a man's eye flashes and his teeth set and his fist clinches, and he prepares to do battle even though it be against the heavens; yet what tears so hard but it will succumb to the story of compassion! Even a man's sympathy is pleasant and helpful. When we have been in some hour of weakness, to have a brawny man stand beside us and promise to see us through, what courage it gives to our heart and what strength it gives to our arm. Still mightier is a woman's sympathy. Let him tell the story who, when all his fortresses are gone and all the world was against him, came home and found in that home a wife who could write on the top of the empty flour barrel: "The Lord will provide," or write on the door of the empty wardrobe, "Consider the lilies of the field; if God so clothed the grass of the field, will he not clothe us and ours?" Or let that young man tell the story who has gone the whole round of dissipation. The shadow of the penitentiary is upon him, and even his father says, "He is off never come home again!" The young man finds still his mother's arm outstretched for him, and how she will stand at the wicket of the prison to whisper consolation, or get down on her knees before the governor, begging for pardon, hoping on for her wayward boy after all others are hopeless. Or let her tell the story who, under villainous allurement and impatient of parental restraint, has wandered off from a home of which she was the idol into the murky and thunderous midnight of abandonment, away from God, and further away, until some time she is tossed on the beach of that early home, a mere splinter of a wreck. Who will pity her now?

Who will gather these dishonored locks into her lap? Who will wash off the blood from the sabbed forehead? Who will tell her that Christ came to save the lost? Who is put that weary head upon the clean white pillow and watch by day and watch by night until the hoarse voice of the sufferer becomes the whisper, and the whisper becomes only a faint motion of the lips, and the faint motion of the lips is exchanged for a silent look, and the cut feet are still, and the frenzied heart is still, and all is still? Who will have compassion on her when no others have compassion? Mother! Mother!

Oh! there is something beautiful in sympathy—in manly sympathy, wifely sympathy, motherly sympathy, yea, and neighborly sympathy. Why was it that a city was aroused with excitement when a little child was kidnaped from one of the streets? Why were whole columns of the newspapers filled with the story of a little child? It was because we are all full in sympathy, and every parent said: "How if it had been my Lizzie? How if it had been my Mary? How if it had been my Maud? How if it had been one unoccupied pillow in our trundle-bed to-night? How if my little one—bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh—were to-night carried captive into some den of vagabonds, never to come back to me? How if it had been my sorrow looking out of the window, watching and waiting—that sorrow worse than death?" Then when they found her why did we declare the news all through the households, and everybody that knew how to pray said, "Thank God!" Because we are all one, bound by one great golden chain of sympathy. Oh! yes, but I have to tell you that if you will aggregate a neighborly, manly, wifely, motherly sympathy, it will be found only a poor starving thing compared with the sympathy of our great Shiloh, who has held in his lap the sorrows of the ages, and who is ready to nurse on his holy heart the woes of all who will come to him. Oh! what a God, what a Saviour we have!

But in larger vision see the nations in some kind of trouble even since the world was derailed and hurled down the embankments. The demon of sin came to this world, but other demons have gone through other worlds. The demon of conflagration, the demon of volcanic disturbances, the demon of destruction.

La Place says he saw one world in the northern hemisphere sixteen months burning. Tycho Brahe said he saw another world burning. A French astronomer says that in three hundred years fifteen hundred worlds have disappeared. I do not see why infidels find it so hard to believe that two worlds stopped in Joshua's time, when the astronomers tell us that fifteen hundred worlds have stopped. Even the moon is a world in ruins. Stellar, lunar, solar catastrophes innumerable. But it seems as if the most sorrows have been reserved for our world. By one toss of the world at Ticuboro, of 12,000 inhabitants, only 26 people escaped. By one shake of the world at Lisbon in five minutes 60,000 perished, and 200,000 before the earth stopped rocking. A mountain falls in Switzerland burying the village of Goldau. A mountain falls in Italy in the night, when 2,000 people are asleep, and they never arose. By a convulsion of the earth, Japan broken off from China, and a convulsion of the earth the Caribbean islands broke off from America. Three islands near the mouth of the Ganges, with 340,000 inhabitants—a great surge of the sea breaks over them and 214,000 perish in the last day. Alas, alas, for our poor world. It has been recently discovered that a whole continent has sunk, a continent that connected Europe and America—part of the inhabitants of that continent coming to Europe, part coming to America over the table-lands of Mexico, up through the valleys of the Mississippi, and we are finding now the remains of their mounds and their cities in Mexico, in Colorado, and the table lands of the West. It is a matter of demonstration that a whole continent has gone down, the Azores off the coast of Spain only the highest mountain of that submerged continent Plato described that continent, its grandeur, the multitude of its inhabitants, its splendor and its awful destruction, and the world thought it was a romance, but archaeologists have found out it was history, and the English and the German and the American fleets have gone forth with archaeologists, and the Challenger and the Dolphin and the dazzling Gorringe anchor, and in deep sea soundings they have found the contour of that sunken continent.

Oh! there is trouble marked on the rocks, on the sky, on the sea, on the flora, and on the fauna. Astronomical trouble, geological trouble, political trouble, domestic trouble, and standing in the presence of all those stupendous devastations, I ask if I am right in saying that the great want of this age and all ages is divine sympathy and omnipotent comfort, and they are found not in the Brahma of the Hindoo, or the Allah of the Mohammedan, but in the Christ unto whom shall the gathering of the people be. Other worlds may fall, but this morning star will never be blotted from the heavens. The earth may quake, but this rock of ages will never be shaken from its foundations. The same Christ who fed the 5,000 will feed all the world's hunger. The same Christ who cured Bartimeus will illumine all blindness. The same Christ who made the dumb speak will put on every tongue a hosanna. The same Christ who awoke Lazarus from the sarcophagus will yet rally all the pious dead in glorious resurrection. "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and that "to him shall the gathering of the people be." Ah! my friends, when Christ starts thoroughly and quickly to lift this miserable wreck of a sunken world, it will not take Him long to lift it.

I have thought that this particular age in which we live may be given up to discoveries and inventions by which through quick and instantaneous communication all cities and all communities and all lands will be brought together, and then in another period, perhaps, these inventions which have been used for worldly purposes will be brought out for Gospel invitation and some great prophet of the Lord will come and snatch the mysterious, sublime and miraculous telephone from the hand of commerce, and all lands and kingdoms connected by a wondrous wire, this prophet of the Lord may, through telephonic communication, in an instant announce to all nations pardon and sympathy and life through Jesus Christ, and then, putting the wondrous tube to the ear of the Lord's prophet, the response shall come back: "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son." You and I may not live to see the day. I think those of us who are over 40 years of age can scarcely expect to see the day. I expect before that time our bodies will be sound asleep in the hammocks of the old Gospel ship as it goes sailing on. But Christ will wake us up in time to see the achievement.

We who have sweated in the hot harvest fields will be at the door of the garner when the sheaves come in. That work for which in this world we toiled and wept, and struggled and wore ourselves out shall not come to consummation and we be oblivious of the achievement. We will be allowed to come out and shake hands with the victors. We who have fought in the earlier battles will have just as much right to rejoice as those who reddened their feet in the last Armageddon. Ah! yea, those who could only give a cupful of cold water in the name of a disciple, those who could only scrape a handful of lint for a wounded soldier, those who could only administer to old age in its decrepitude, those who could only coax a poor waif of the street to go back home to her God, those who could only lift a little child in the arms of Christ, will have as much right to take part in the ovation to the Lord Jesus Christ as Chrysostom. It will be your victory and mine, as well as Christ's. He the conqueror, we shouting in his train. Christ the victor will pick out the humblest of His disciples in the crowd, and turning half round on the white horse of victory he shall point her out for approval by the multitude, as he says: "She did what she could." Then, putting his hand on the head of some man, who by his industry made one talent do the work of ten, he will say: "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over ten cities." To different theories about the fulfilment of this promise.

There are people who think Christ will come in person and sit down on a throne. Perhaps he may. I should like to see the scarred feet going up the stairs of a palace in which all the glories of the Alhambra, and the Taj Mahal and the St. Mark's, and the winter palace are gathered. I should like to see the world pay Christ in love for what it did to him in maltreatment. I should like to be one of the grooms of the chargers, holding the stirrup as the king mounts. O! what a glorious thing it would be on earth if Christ would break through the heavens, and right there where he has suffered and died have this prophecy fulfilled, "Unto him shall the gathering of the people be." But falling in that, I hargain to meet you at the ponderous gate of heaven on the day when our Lord comes back, garlands of all nations on his brow—of the bronzed of the South and the pallid nations of the North—Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, and all other continents that may arise meantime from the sea to take the place of their sunken predecessors; Arch of Trajan, Arch of Titus, Arch of Triumph in the Champs Elysees, all too poor to welcome this King of kings, and Lord of lords, and conqueror of conquerors in his august arrival. Hang all along the route the flags of earthly dominion, whether decorated with crescent or star, or eagle, or lion, or coronet. Hang out heaven's brightest banner with its one star of Bethlehem and blood-stripped of the cross. I hear the procession now. Hark! the tramp of feet, the rumbling of the wheels, the clattering of the hoofs, and the shout of the riders. Ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands. Put up in heaven's library, right beside the completed volume of God's triumph. The old promise struggling through the ages fulfilled at last: "Unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

While everlasting ages roll,
Eternal love shall feast their soul,
And scenes of bliss forever new,
Rise in succession to their view.

HUMOR AMONG MINISTERS

Occasions When Divines Have Proved Equal to Emergencies.

Even in Newfoundland the ministers and priests have a keen appreciation of the humorous, says the New York Herald. The late Roman Catholic Bishop of that diocese had a piano of which he wished to dispose, and which a friend, a Protestant minister, desired to purchase. There was much dickering over the instrument before the minister finally secured it at a price which the Bishop declared was ridiculously low. The only vehicle in the settlement which would accommodate the piano, when the time came for its delivery, was the hearse, and this the Bishop sent to the minister's door. Off to the Bishop's the minister went in great anger. "Why on earth," he said, "did you send my piano home in the hearse?" The Bishop's brow wrinkled, as he remembered the bargaining, and he answered, "Oh, because it was such a dead bargain."

Dr. Erskine, the famous Scottish divine, was remarkable for his gentle temper. He returned so often from the pulpit minus his pocket handkerchief that Mrs. Erskine suspected that it had been stolen, so to detect the culprit she sewed a corner of the handkerchief to one of the pockets of the coat-tail. Half way up the aisle to the pulpit the doctor felt a tug at his coat. He turned around to an old woman and said, with gentleness, "No' the day, honest woman, no' the day; Mrs. Erskine sewed it on hersel'."

The Bishop of Lichfield was out riding one Sunday, when his horses, which had become tired from the great distance they had traveled, gave out, and he concluded to walk to a railway station. On his way he met a crowd of men squatting together on the ground, and he stopped to say a few words to them. "Well, my good men," he said, "what are you doing?" "We bin a-lovin'," replied one of the men. "You are lying," said the Bishop, "I do not understand you." "We bin a-lovin'," again said the man. "But what do you mean?" "Why, yer see, one of us has fun a kettle and we bin a tryin' who can tell the biggest lie to have it." "Trying to tell the biggest lie," exclaimed the Bishop, "what a shocking thing." And then the Bishop told the men that he had always been taught that one of the greatest sins was to tell a lie. The men listened patiently, but presently one of them, who had been looking intently at the Bishop, suddenly exclaimed, on hearing him say that he had never in his life told a lie, "Gie th' governor the kettle. Gie th' governor the kettle." The Bishop returned his walk.

A clergyman of the Church of Scotland took much interest in the progress of a Highland student and aided him as much as he could in his studies preparatory to getting a license from the Presbytery. In one thing, however, he was deficient. Both minister and student were much perplexed as to how to overcome the difficulty. Neither knew anything of Hebrew, and how the young man was to meet the reverend court without it sorely puzzled them both. At last the clergyman saw his way clear, as if by inspiration. "Take your Gaelic Bible," he said, "and when you are asked to read Hebrew go on reading from it." The day came, the trial proceeded and everything passed off satisfactorily. The young man was requested to read Hebrew and with fear and trembling he drew forth his Gaelic Bible and proceeded to read and translate. After he had gone on thus for a short time "that will do," the professor exclaimed. "What do you say, brethren?" Every reverend brother complimented the young man on his familiarity with Hebrew, and it was said the young man is now preaching in this state.

To keen teeth pearly and sound.
Use SOZODONT all the year round.
And could a dealer proffer.
With a smile, some substitute,
Minus purity or repute.
Reject his humbugging offer.

THE BRUSH-TAILED KANGAROO.

A Curious Creature Which Carries Her Babies in a Pouch.

The children find nothing more interesting at the Zoo than the brush-tailed kangaroo. Mamma kangaroo carried her baby around in a queer little pouch located under the soft skin of her breast, and the little fellow pokes

THE BRUSH TAIL KANGAROO.

his head out and looks around in the most comical way. The women think he is just too cute for anything, and there is always a crowd standing about the cage, feeding peanuts to the interesting mamma.—Philadelphia Times.

A Useful Man.

"Brown is weak financially, isn't he?"

"He hasn't much money, but he gives employment to a great many men."

"Who are they."

"Other people's bill collectors."—Brooklyn Life.

She Might Take Him on Account.

"I—I overheard Mr. Jones proposing to the landlady last night," said the new boarder.

"Yes," said the old boarder, "he always does that when he is not able to settle."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Three "Wakes."

Mike O'Flannigan—Well, how be's ye this marrin', Pat?

Pat McCarthy—Sure, I'm that wake that ye'll be comin' to me wake befor the end of the wake.—Truth.

—Take Rational Care of your Cold at Once, by using Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, and you will save much worry, and render less likely the development of a dangerous Throat or Lung Disease.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Suppose, in the affairs of state,
In fierce discussion and debate,
When statesmen talk and rant and blow
And yank the tariff to and fro:
Suppose the whole should flicker through,
What would the politicians do?

Suppose that "silver" was a myth,
The little folks to frighten with
And "parity with gold" we use
To drive away attacks of blues—
Suppose that tales are always true,
What would the politicians do?

Suppose, in latitudes remote
When dusky voters went to vote,
Suppose they offered each, in state,
A ballot on a perfumed plate.
Suppose they counted it as two,
What would the politicians do?

Suppose the men who pensions draw
Refused to profit by the law;
Suppose they all were millionaires
With gilded bonds and railway shares
And houses on the avenue,
What would the politicians do?

Suppose, when platform-makers bent
Their wits to form a document,
They searched in vain for boding harm.
In vain they "viewed" with vain "alarm;"
Suppose that skies were ever blue,
What would the politicians do?

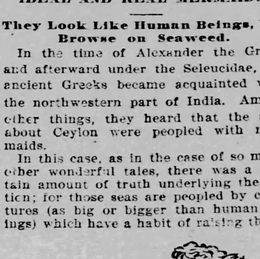
—Chicago Record.

IDEAL AND REAL MERMAIDS.

They Look Like Human Beings, but Browse on Seaweed.

In the time of Alexander the Great, and afterward under the Seleucidae, the ancient Greeks became acquainted with the northwestern part of India. Among other things, they heard that the seas about Ceylon were peopled with mermaids.

In this case, as in the case of so many other wonderful tales, there was a certain amount of truth underlying the fiction; for those seas are peopled by creatures (as big or bigger than human beings) which have a habit of raising them-



IDEAL MERMAIDS.

selves up vertically out of the water, when they present a very startling appearance to an unscientifically critical eye.

Astonished travelers behold beings with rounded, human-looking heads, showing their body down to the bust out of the water, and not infrequently holding a baby in their arms. After remaining some time in this attitude they would suddenly dive, and then a tail like a fish's became exposed to view.

Small wonder, then, that sailors should imagine they were beholding creatures half women and half fish, for the vivid-

REAL MERMAIDS.

ness of a sailor's imagination is proverbial. But the creature thus seen is as different in temper and habit from the fabled mermaids as it is in body.

Instead of seeking to seduce unwary voyagers to visit its home beneath the waves, in order there to devour them, the dugong (for that is the name for this sort of mermaid) browses peacefully on seaweed, and is as harmless as it is curious.

Suffered With Dyspepsia.

"Brunswick, O., Feb. 4, 1895.—My husband has been a great sufferer from dyspepsia for a number of years, and has been treated by a number of physicians without benefit. He has taken three boxes of Hood's Pills, and they have done him more good than all the other medicine that he has ever taken. Mrs. F. H. Gibbs."

Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

CONJUROR WAS CONFIDENCED.

His Accomplice in a Trick Did Not Live Up to His Agreement.

An illusionist was talking the other day of some of the accidents that sometimes spoil the art of the conjurer, says the New York Times.

"I was in Nashville, Tenn.," he said, "that I experienced a real knock-down blow. I was performing the well known trick of passing a marked coin into the center of an uncut orange. At least, that's what a good many people thought I was doing. I used a silver dollar, and emphasized the trick by passing the coin into the pocket of some boy whom I had enticed on the stage. I will openly confess that the boy had to be a confederate and that the marked dollar had its fellow in one already prepared by me. One night as I was entering the theatre, I looked around for a likely youth to aid me in my double dealing. I picked a boy and promised to pass him in if he would follow my instructions.

"'I am a conjurer,' I said. 'I want you to put this dollar into your right-hand trousers pocket. I'll get you a seat in the front row. When I ask for somebody to come on the stage you must come. Then I will ask you to produce the dollar.'

"The boy promised everything, and after making arrangements for him at the door, I left him. When I was ready for the dollar trick I saw my young confederate sitting open-mouthed in the front row. I had prevailed upon another member of the audience to lend me a dollar marked exactly as was that I had given the boy.

"I asked that borrowed dollar into the orange, cut the fruit open, and out dropped the coin. Then I went on:

"'And now, ladies and gentlemen, I will perform a still more difficult feat. I have passed that dollar into an orange. Now I will ask some member of the audience to step on the stage, and, without going anywhere near him, I will pass the same dollar marked as you have seen, into the right hand trousers pocket.'

"True to his bargain, the boy stepped to the stage. I stepped opposite him and asked:

"'Now, sir, have you ever seen me before?'

"'No, sir,' was the answer.

"'I have here a dollar,' I continued. 'I am going to pass it into your right hand trousers pocket. One—two—three—go!'

"I made the proper magician's pass, and smiled confidently upon my audience.

"'Now,' I said to my assistant, 'put your hand into your right hand trouser's pocket, and give me the dollar.'

"The boy looked a bit sheepish, but he dived his fist down. Then to my unutterable horror, he produced a handful of silver and said:

"'I've only got 90 cents of it left, sir.'

"I went out in a hurry and took a drink."

ENGAGEMENT RINGS.

Miss Elderly—She said she heard I was engaged.

Lena—How nice of her!—Truth.

"Don't you enjoy making engagements?"

"Yes, indeed. It is almost as exciting as breaking them."—Chicago Record.

Hazel—Say, haven't you and Jack been engaged long enough to get married?

Mabel—Too long? He hasn't got a cent left.—Truth.

He—Why did you accept me?
She—Why—I—I—loved you.
He—You don't say so! Why, this is astonishing.—Truth.

I pleaded long for the whispered "Yes,"
Which she long withheld; but oh,
I sigh to think how her name I'd bless
If she'd only stuck to "No!"

She—Yes, they are engaged. I know she refused him twice, but the third time he proposed she accepted him.

Her Husband—Serves him right.—Brooklyn Life.

May—Why did you accept him if you disliked him?

Belle—He was the thirteenth to propose to me and I thought it might be unlucky to reject him.—Truth.

The Sunday School.

True Love to One's Neighbor.

LESSON X, MARCH 8, 1896.

Golden Text:—Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.—Luke 10: 27.

(Luke 10: 25-37. Memory verses: 25-27.)

Read Luke 9: 51-62, and 10: 1-42.

25. And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

26. He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?

27. And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thy self.

28. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

29. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbor?

30. And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

31. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

33. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was, he had compassion on him.

34. And went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him: and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

36. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

37. And he said, He that showed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

Illustrative Applications.

A certain lawyer stood up and tempted him (v. 25). Asking a question in honest search of information is praiseworthy. Asking a question in order to show the ignorance or inconsistency of the one questioned, is a very different matter. Many a man asks questions about God, not because he wants to know his duty, but because he thinks he can show that God is unreasonable or unfair. Asking why sin is in the world, or why God lets a man sin and then punishes him for it, is not an honest question. Asking what is one's duty, or how one can secure forgiveness, or what one can do to show his love for God, is a perfectly proper question. It is the spirit of a question that measures its real value.

What is written in the law? (v. 26). Whether a question about God and his ways with man is asked honestly, or is asked captiously, a good way to settle it is by going to God's Word for the answer. And there is a gain when we even get the questioner himself to look up the answer in the Bible. What we think about a given matter may or may not be accepted, but what God says about it has weight with every believer in God. And God's word is "exceedingly broad." It covers every point of real importance in all fair discussion concerning personal duty and the consequences of right doing. If we search the Scriptures honestly, we shall find even more than we expected to.

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart; and thy neighbor as thyself (v. 27). These are not the words of Jesus to the Jewish inquirer; but they are the answer of the Jewish inquirer to a question of Jesus. Yet Jesus, on another occasion, used the same words in substance as his understanding of the requirement of the law. The teachings of the Old Testament are of the New are at one on this point. We have a duty to love God, and to love God's children. The brotherhood of men grows out of the common fatherhood of God. We have no right to shut up our heart against any one who can call God Father, or whom God can call his child.

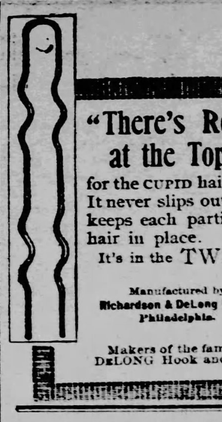
He, desiring to justify himself, said, Who is my neighbor? (v. 29). Asking a new question is often only a way of dodging the pressure which comes from an answer to a former one. A little colored girl was detected in stealing preserves. Her mistress in reproving her, asked: "Rebecca, what did you do that for?" The child replied, "Cause de debble told me to." "I suppose he did," was the response, "but why didn't you refuse to do as he told you to?" She, desiring to justify herself, asked, "Why don't de Lord kill de debbil; throw him in de fire?" That is the old method of dodging responsibility. It is a method not yet out of use among those who are not quite ready to do right as far as they know their duty.

A certain man fell among robbers (v. 30). That sounds like a story of nowadays. Men and women fall among robbers in a great many places. They may fall among robbers when they go to invest their money in a railroad corporation, or in a manufacturing concern, or to deposit it in a bank when they trust the friends of their father or husband, who manage the property which was left for their benefit; when they put confidence in men of unblemished reputation, and follow the advice which they suppose to be disinterested and sound. There are robberies of confidence and robberies of time, and robberies of health, as well as robberies of property. All of us are in danger of falling among robbers, on whatever road we travel, and even while we stay at home.

A certain priest . . . passed by (v. 31). A clergyman of any name must be judged, like everybody else, by his conduct. Those who profess to be men of God must work the works of God, or be rejected as men of false pretensions. If they shirk their duties in times of pestilence; if they fail to visit the sick and needy; if they do not keep their word, or pay their debts; if they preach other men's sermons as if they were their own; if they set a bad example to the young people in the use of wine or tobacco; if they are ill-natured at home, or irreverent and unmerciful in their intercourse with those outside—they must take the consequences; they must suffer discredit for a failure to come up to the requirements of their profession. "By their fruits ye shall know them,"—not by their labels, nor by their location, but by their fruits.

In like manner a Levite also, when he . . . saw him, passed by on the other side (v. 32). Being in the line of religious work doesn't make a man religious. There is many a church sexton who had not rather be a doorkeeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness—at higher wages. There have been deacons who defaulted, and elders who embezzled, and stewards who stole. There have been Sunday-school superintendents and teachers who did very wrong things, and showed a very bad spirit, and who were among the poorest of patterns in their characters and actions. There have been such, and it may be that their race is not yet extinct. If you are at work energetically in the Sunday-school, you ought to be a very kind-hearted person, very self-denying, very considerate of others, very faithful in every personal duty toward all whom you have to do with, or whom you meet, in your daily life.

A certain Samaritan, bound up his wounds, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him (vs. 33, 34). Many a man is better than his party or his creed, and many another man is not so good. The test of a man is his conduct, as growing out of his character. If his



creed is sound, his conduct ought to commend it to others. If we think his party or his denomination, or his nationality is far from the best, we ought to do better than he does, or be ashamed of our lack. Whatever we think of creeds, or parties, or people, it is clear that God's standards of judgment do not conform strictly to orthodox lines.

Go, and do thou likewise (v. 37). A good example is the best lesson. The sight of an act of nobleness, or generosity, or self-sacrifice, is a telling argument in its favor, and it often wins admirers who could not otherwise be reasoned into approval of such conduct. The best side of human nature is shown in the popular readiness to cheer an act of bravery or heroism, in which one rises above the common plane of self-seeking and of indifference to the needs and pains of others. But it is one thing to cheer such an act, and quite another thing to imitate it. The call of Jesus on every one of us, when we commend nobility of conduct is "Go, and do thou likewise."—H. Clay Trumbull in Sunday School Times.

"I have been afflicted with an affection of the Throat from childhood, caused by diphtheria, and have used various remedies, but have never found anything equal to HOOFLAND'S BITTERS."—Rev. G. M. F. Hampton, Piketon, Ky. Sold only in boxes.

THEY DON'T BUY THE PAPERS.

Some of the Means by Which People Get the News.

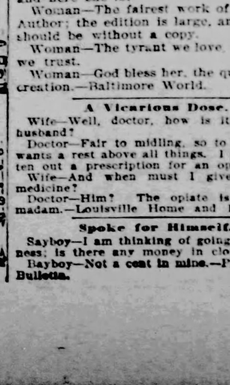
The conversation drifted to the discussion of false economy, says the New York Tribune, and Mrs. Jones amused the entire dinnertable with the story of a friend who walked home in the pouring rain, ruined a new gown and was ill in bed three weeks with bronchitis because she begrudged a five-cent car fare.

Mr. Jones's laughter exceeded the demands of the story, with the greatest difficulty he restrained himself from explaining that his amusement was due in part to his wife's naivete. She had forgotten that the week before, in her endeavors to make the month's allowance include all the Christmas presents, she hailed with joy an advertisement which offered dishpans five cents cheaper than they were to be found in the uptown stores. After spending half a day and ten cents car fare she returned home with a sick headache and a dishpan which leaked after it had been used twice.

Not a little of Mr. Jones's self-control was also due to the fact that he knew that if he were traitor his wife would not hesitate to turn the tables upon him and recount the way in which he had ruined his disposition and peace in the household by buying a cheap razor and shaving himself, when for forty years he had let some one else do it for him.

"I think though," said the boy, "that for downright meanness the newspaper economist leads the procession. Any man deserves his future fate who thrusts aside the little ragged supplicants besetting his path and refuses to buy a paper. It isn't because he is indifferent to the daily happenings, for while the rest of the car rustles its way through stocks, sports and politics, he jams his elbow into you and cranes his neck over your shoulder in his endeavors to see what your paper has to say about the last robbery, or dived out what your politics are. He doesn't hesitate to show his disgust if you turn the sheet before he is ready; and when you have stood it long enough and hand him the paper with what you consider the acme of freezing dignity, his serenity isn't at all disturbed."

"Going down on the elevated this morning," said the young man at Mrs. Jones's right, "a man sprawled all over me and knocked the varnish off my patent leathers, trying to extract something from under the next seat. I expected to



have him turn up with at least a $20 gold piece, and intended to make him buy me a new pair of boots with half the haul. He was only after a penny 'extra' which some one had thrown away."

"It doe seem as though every fat man in town waited to get the news off the bulletin boards," piped little Miss Smith. "I had such a time this afternoon getting from the postoffice to the bridge. I finally got wedged in between two men who were settling that Venezuela question, and should have been there still if a policeman hadn't told the crowd to move on."

"There's another frugal mind that always interests me," observed Mr. Smith, helping himself to the salted almonds. "It's the man who stirs up the synmetrically arranged magazines, turns over the newspapers on the newsstands, and in spite of the angry glances and picturesque language of the newsboy gathers the latest news of stocks and bonds, laughs over the newest jokes, and walks off with the last sporting events, without its costing him a cent."

"Put your head out of the window some night when the boy is going through the streets with an extra," said Mr. Brown, "and you'll find at least six other men on the block going through the same physical discomfort and mental strain, trying to gather from the discordant sounds whether 500 lives have been lost by a boiler explosion, or England and Germany have declared war."

To Toast Woman.

There is no perfect meal without a woman to do the honors of the table. Water is as good as wine, and the following may serve as hints to the father, brother, husband or guest who is able to talk, yet needs a little aid to lift him out of the common rut.

Woman—The sweetest creature the Lord ever made.

Woman—The source of help, happiness and heaven.

Woman—She needs no eulogy; she speaks for herself.

Woman—A creature "nobly planned, to warn, comfort and command."

Woman—Once there was a woman, sir, and here she is!

Woman—The fairest work of the great Author; the edition is large, and no man should be

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1896.

Largest and Best Weekly Published, and Largest Circulation!

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

CIRCULATION LAST WEEK, 100,000

KAFFIR CORN.

So many subscribers of The Blade have written to ask us where to obtain Kaffir corn—they wishing to plant some for experimental purposes—that we have arranged to furnish it to subscribers, on the terms mentioned in the advertisement on the fifth page of this issue.

There is no money in this offer for us. We do not desire any profit out of it. It is done merely to benefit those of our subscribers who wish to try this new forage plant, which is so highly commended. The Blade's old subscribers know that we are constantly making offers of this kind, for their benefit, which save them more than the cost of subscription. We trust a goodly number of our farmer subscribers will try Kaffir corn, and report their experience with it in The Blade's columns.

EXCELLENT SEEDS FREE.

On the 7th page of this issue we publish an offer of garden seeds to the subscribers of the Weekly Blade, of which we believe thousands will be glad to avail themselves. Read it carefully, for you get the best quality of seeds actually free of cost, if you send a subscription or a renewal at the same time.

REMEMBER—This offer is open only to those who remit $1 for subscription or renewal, after this date.

We publish the offer early, because a great many subscribers renew during February, and will probably be glad to avail themselves of this. The seeds will not spoil by having them on hand until planting time.

The seeds have been grown in Minnesota, and hence the plants will be hardy and strong in any climate. No reader of The Blade in the United States lives in so cold a region that these seeds will not give full satisfaction. Per contra, those living further south, and hence in a warmer climate, will find these seeds most excellent. They will produce more vigorous plants than seeds grown in warmer latitudes. Read the offer carefully. You never had a better opportunity to get first-class seeds. It pays to get the best seeds of the best varieties, for the yield is larger and the product better.

OUR BATTLE PICTURES.

Do not fail to read our offer of splendid battle pictures for renewals or new subscriptions to the Weekly Blade. It will be found in the "Publishers' Column," the first thing on the fifth page.

NOTICE particularly that this offer is ONLY to those who send us $1 for a subscription or renewal, after this date.

The pictures are splendid. They are fine enough to ornament the walls of the most magnificent private residence. They are all reproductions of oil paintings, are large in size, and accurate in historic detail. Read the offer carefully, and avail yourself of it.

EDGAR W. NYE.

The tidings that Edgar W. Nye—better known to the American public as "Bill" Nye, the humorist—has passed away, brings sorrow to tens of thousands who have laughed at his conceits. He was not an humorist of the first class, but what fun there is in his writings is clean and wholesome, and not sullied with sarcasm, as is too often the case with the average fun-maker. Many comic writers reach their end by constantly harping in a cynical vein on the frailties, the follies, or the ignorance of humanity, assuming for themselves a higher plane. But Bill Nye never posed as a little tin god, nor was he averse to making a joke which had himself for its subject. He was a man of gentle spirit, kindly and generous, and his writings reflected the man.

Mr. Nye was born in Maine about 45 years ago. His parents moved to the West in his early childhood, and fixed their home at River Falls, Wisconsin, where he was reared and educated. He studied law, and about 1878 went to the West, opening an office in Laramie, Wyoming. He began writing for the local press, and the originality and humor of his articles led to an engagement to write a weekly humorous letter for the Denver Tribune. In 1881 he started a newspaper in Laramie—the Daily Boomerang, named after a mule which had died in his service. His fun soon made the Boomerang the most widely quoted newspaper in the West, and brought him fame as an humorist. He has been a success in the lecture field, and is one of the few men who have made a fortune by wisely using his gift of humor. The world will be the loser from his passing away.

THE DUPONT CASE.

It is hard to see how the Senate committee on privileges and elections could have reached any other determination in the case of Mr. Dupont, Senator-elect from Delaware. The report is in his favor, and the facts are briefly as follows: It requires a majority of the legislature to elect. By the death of Gov. Marvil, the governorship of the state devolved upon Wm. T. Watson, a Democrat, and speaker of the state Senate, by constitutional provision. The legislature contained 30 members, counting Watson; if after he assumed the governorship, he was not longer a member of the Senate, then the total membership of the legislature was 29, and the 15 votes given Dupont constituted a legal majority.

The whole question is, whether Watson was entitled to his vote in the Senate after assuming the governorship. As the constitution forbids a member of the legislature holding any other office, the committee finds that he was not entitled to vote for United States Senator, and therefore affirms Dupont's legal election.

This finding is certainly supported by the facts; but will the United States Senate, as at present constituted, vote for right and justice, or will the Democrats and Populists refuse to seat Mr. Dupont in order to prevent the Republicans from getting another seat? Only the outcome can decide this, and show the country whether partisanship or patriotism rules half of the Senate

LIQUOR REVENUES DECLINING.

It is a fact that notwithstanding the increase in the internal revenue tax on distilled liquors, the revenue from this source is declining. There are several reasons assigned for this, among them that there is an increase of fraud in the manufacture and sale. This, however, can not be accepted as a reason for the entire amount of the reduction in the internal revenue from this source. There are frauds, doubtless, but there have always been more or less of them; and this explanation does not fit the facts.

The revenue from distilled spirits is falling off, not only in absolute amount, but also relatively to the population. For several years the annual returns of the Internal Revenue bureau have been showing this. This decrease does not mean that there is a great fraud organization which is increasing year by year. It is impossible for this to be so, under the present law. The frauds are small and perpetrated by individuals; and are chiefly in the line of "moonshining"—the illicit distillation of whisky, with a plant easily concealed, capable of producing only a few gallons per day.

The real reason for this progressive decline is that the drinking of distilled liquors is decreasing among the people. The use of alcohol in the arts is increasing, and as this pays the same tax, it follows that the decrease in drinking not only counteracts the increase of tax because of the larger use of alcohol in the arts, but far exceeds it, thus producing a decline in the receipts, which increases steadily year by year.

The reason is not far to seek. It is the steady increase of temperance sentiment among the people. The work of temperance education in the schools is beginning to bear fruit; and this is supplemented by many other agencies. One of the chief of the latter is the discrimination against drinking men on the part of railway companies and many other employers of skilled labor. It is becoming more and more difficult for a man who drinks at all—and almost impossible for a drunkard—to get a situation under any corporation. Banks, insurance companies, merchants, and business men generally demand temperance as a qualification for their employes. Even the saloonkeepers insist on sobriety on the part of the bartenders.

The progress of temperance reform is very notable in the professions. The doctor or lawyer who drinks to excess finds that his business is decaying. The teacher who frequents saloons soon finds his occupation gone. Not many years ago there were notorious drunkards in Congress, but this nuisance has been greatly abated. The legislatures of all the states show a similar change. Public sentiment is becoming less and less tolerant of inebriety. These are the reasons why the national whisky bill is decreasing. And it shows that success is coming in the effort to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

The constitutional tangle in which the Bourgeois ministry in France is now involved is one which could not happen under our system, in which the President is the head of the government, and the Cabinet officials hold their offices throughout his term. The French system is modeled upon that of England. By the terms of the French constitution, when the ministry is confronted by a vote which implies lack of confidence in its policy, it must resign, or dissolve the chambers, going to the people for a new election.

The Senate is hostile to the ministry, and bent upon forcing its resignation. The chamber of deputies is favorable to the Bourgeois regime. The question at issue is the refusal of the Bourgeois ministry to investigate the great railway scandals. On this the ministry was endorsed by an immense majority. It may be that this vote was because the ministry has in its hands the evidence of the complicity of a large number of deputies in these scandals, and used this as a red in terrorem over their heads, in order to maintain itself in power.

The senate, however, has reiterated its hostile vote—an unwonted and dangerous move, for it puts the ministry in a position not contemplated by the constitution. That is, it has a vote of confidence in the lower house and the opposite in the upper. The ministry chooses to retain power by accepting the support of one house, and thus a deadlock ensues which is not provided for, and from which there is no constitutional method of relief.

The senate is determined to force the resignation of the ministry. The senators know that a majority of the chamber of deputies is at heart opposed to the Bourgeois ministry, and desires its overthrow, but is restrained by a fear of consequences—the revelation of the complicity of many members in the corrupt legislation in the railway matter. If there were a large following of any imperial or royal pretender, a coup d' etat might be looked for; but there is none, and the outcome must be either a weakening of one side or the other, or else a revolution and a revision of the constitution.

DIAGNOSIS BY THE X RAYS.

A Chicago physician, Dr. James Burry, and Electrician Scribner, have demonstrated the diagnostic value of the Roentgen photographs through the bodily structure. Dr. Berry had a patient afflicted with tuberculosis—which, when it affects the lungs, is called consumption, in this case, it had attacked the bones of one wrist. By means of the X rays, a picture of the bones of the wrist was obtained, which showed that they were matted together by the tuberculous growth, which obstructed the circulation of the blood.

This is probably the first time that Roentgen's discovery has been used to detect the internal ravages of disease. It opens a vast field of investigation and of usefulness. The interior of the body is, to a large degree, made visible, and the advantages which will accrue to the intelligent physician in his efforts to combat diseased conditions may well be deemed enormous.

It is worthy of remark that within a twelvemonth three discoveries have been made which are each of more importance to medical science than any since the discovery of anaesthetics. These are the discovery of antitoxin, which is a specific for diphtheria; that of aseptolin, which promises to be an adequate remedy for tuberculosis in all its forms; and Dr. Roentgen's discovery of the X rays, and their power of photographing the invisible. We are entering upon an era of scientific discovery and development which means great things for humanity, both in health and disease.

Representative Talbert is making a great ado over an old free silver speech of Secretary Carlisle's, made eighteen years ago. He don't seem to consider that it merely proves that Carlisle has learned something in the interim, which Bland, Vest, and others have remained wedded to their ignorant errors.

Secretary Morton probably confidentially informs himself that he was foolish when he tried to stop the free distribution of seeds.

The department of promotion of the Cleveland third term boom does not seem to be in good working order.

THE DEMOCRATIC TARIFF FAILURE.

The Wilson tariff law does not make very rapid progress in meeting the promises which its friends have repeated over and over again in its behalf. It is now clear that the February receipts will scarcely reach as much as $25,000,000, while the normal expenses of the government continue to run at the rate of $30,000,000 per month, taking one month with another the year round. Promise after promise has been made that the new law would pretty soon "brace up" and do somewhere nearly as well as the McKinley law did. But certainly the test of practice has not substantiated these promises. Yet the more unscrupulous among the Democratic newspapers are endeavoring to play the old game of falsification by brazenly asserting that it is producing more revenue than its predecessor did!

To show the monstrous nature of this statement, it is only necessary to take the Treasury's official figures and see what the Wilson law has done at various periods in its history, as compared with the similar periods under the McKinley law. The following statements give the work accomplished under the present mongrel at the end of its eighth, tenth and sixteenth months, compared with the McKinley law at corresponding periods in its history. They will be worth preservation for reference, to see if the promise of improvement under the Wilson law is being made good:

EIGHT MONTHS.

Wilson law, receipts first eight months	$183,448,874
McKinley law, receipts same period preceding year	189,314,735
McKinley law, receipts in its worst three months	187,347,219
Wilson law, receipts in best eight months to date	183,448,874
McKinley law, receipts the first eight months	246,878,400
Wilson law, receipts the first eight months	183,449,874
McKinley law, surplus first eight months	21,208,767
Wilson law, deficiency first eight months	51,273,466

TEN MONTHS.

Wilson law, first ten months' receipts	$235,343,893
McKinley law, first ten months' receipts	309,872,852
Wilson law, ten months, Aug., '94, to June, '95, receipts	235,343,893
McKinley law, corresponding 10 months, last year, receipts	289,877,774
Wilson law, last 10 months' receipts	235,343,893
McKinley law, closing 10 months' receipts	264,931,588
Wilson law, first 10 months' deficiency	52,027,181
McKinley law, first 10 months' surplus	12,280,513
Wilson law, average monthly deficiency, first 10 months	5,202,718
McKinley law, average monthly surplus, first 10 months	1,228,051
Wilson law, first 10 months' contribution to sinking fund	Nothing.
McKinley law, first 10 months' contribution to sinking fund	36,000,000

SIXTEEN MONTHS.

Customs receipts, first 16 months McKinley law	$255,891,502
Customs receipts, first 16 months Wilson law	213,437,870
Total receipts, first 16 months McKinley law	481,882,779
Total receipts, last 16 months McKinley law	430,688,257
Total receipts, first 16 months Wilson law	400,085,683
Surplus, first 16 months McKinley law	21,288,020
Deficiency, first 16 months Wilson law	69,849,439

SENATOR FORAKER.

The Blade prints in full to-day the splendid speech of Senator Foraker at the banquet given in his honor on Saturday evening by his fellow-citizens of Cincinnati. The occasion was a most brilliant one. Cincinnatians of all shades of political opinion and representative of all the industries and commerce of the city, assembled to do honor to their distinguished fellow-townsman.

Foraker's address was in part an outline of the policies he believes should control the legislation of the nation, and which he will do his best to further in the United States Senate. It is Republican policy—Republican to the core, and progressive. He put the case forcibly, as is his wont. And he placed his finger on the shame of our American commerce, pointing it out to propose a remedy.

Once 90 per cent of our foreign trade was carried in American ships; now we carry less than thirteen per cent. As a result of this state of things, we are paying out every year more than $150,000,000 to foreign ships for carrying freight and passengers to and from our shores.

Senator Foraker proposes a sound and common-sense, and withal thoroughly effective, remedy for this state of things. He recited the two little known fact that the First Congress not only passed a protective law—the second law enacted under the constitution—but it provided for a rebate of duties on imported goods carried in American bottoms.

He proposes ot go back to the system of the fathers of the republic—to apply "the principle of protection to the waters as well as to the land," as he graphically put it. To accomplish this, he proposes:

That imports on the free list shall come into this country free of duty only when carried in American vessels, under the American flag.

That all dutiable imports shall be allowed a rebate of duty when imported in American bottoms.

That when the principle of reciprocity is restored to our tariff system, that the goods shall receive the benefit of the reciprocity provisions only "when they are carried in the ships of the reciprocity country."

The result of such a policy can easily be foreseen. The American merchant marine will be new-born, and the flag of the Union will be a familiar sight in every port of the world. "There will be no longer an elbowing, by Great Britain, of the American marine off the waters of the globe," to quote the Senator's crisp statement, which elicited a thunder of applause from his enthused hearers.

This is the keynote of the speech, and the remainder of the policy outlined is like unto it. We urge every citizen, whether he be Republican or Democrat, to read it in extenso. It is the best statement of progressive Republican doctrine that has yet been made, and the committee on resolutions at the party's great quadrennial national council, at St. Louis next June, can not do better than to embrace its suggestions in the platform which they will prepare.

The tenor of cablegrams from London and Berlin is that the possibility of complications of the utmost seriousness over the Transvaal situation is by no means past. If it be true that, in the face of the known difficulties, there is a current of sentiment in England favorable to intervention in the Boer Republic, it is not likely to be checked by the popular approval by the Germans of the assertion of German rights in South Africa. However, though diplomats may threaten, the dangers of provoking an European conflict are so tremendous that we may feel pretty sure that a peaceful solution of the clashing of English and German interests in South Africa will be found without loosing the dogs of war.

The sad ending of Hon. M. D. Harter was a shock to his many friends. No matter how much a man differed from Mr. Harter on public questions, he was always given the credit for the honesty and sincerity of his convictions.

Queen Victoria says: "The government of the United States have, etc." The Queen is old enough to know we are a people.

The X rays do not interest the average individual half as much as how to accomplish an "X" raise.

THE PRESIDENTIAL SITUATION.

The political situation is unique in that it is conceded, even by Democrats, that the Republican nomination for the Presidency is tantamount to an election. Hence the question as to who will be the successful candidate before the St. Louis convention is one of the most absorbing interest. No one cares particularly who may be the Democratic nominee. The Chicago gathering will put up a candidate pro forma, without even a remote hope of his election.

Who is the most likely to be the nominee of the Republican party?

There is no doubt that McKinley stands first at present. His strength is with the people, and because he is the exponent of a proper protective policy. The hard times which have followed the enactment of the Democratic tariff law have opened the eyes of the voters. They see that the way to regain prosperity is by a return to protection, and they naturally turn to McKinley.

Next in popular favor is certainly Speaker Reed. His great executive ability, his force of character, his steadiness of purpose, all commend him to the Republican masses.

Then comes a number of lesser aspirants—Allison, Morton, Manderson, Alger, Senator Devis, et id omne genus. The only chance any of these, or any one yet unnamed will have is through a deadlock in the St. Louis convention, and a turning to a "dark horse" as a solution of the problem. That is to say, a repetition of the convention of 1880.

McKinley has certainly a good lead—so good that the situation is "the field against McKinley."

The formidable nature of his candidacy has caused the sudden development of sporadic booms. The friends of other candidates have seen that McKinley is gaining such strength that the only way to head him off is to try to divide some of his strength west of the Alleghenies by putting into the field men from the various states in which he is strong. They recognize that the withdrawal of Harrison helped McKinley more than anybody else, and they are trying to offset that by bringing out as many candidates as possible.

The list of minor candidates—of "favorite sons" of different states—is not yet complete. We shall probably soon see other candidates placed in the field, perhaps one from the Pacific Slope and possibly one from each of two or three strong McKinley states. It is simply a game of politics, of which nobody is complaining, but which everybody ought to understand as meaning nothing more than an effort to defeat the man who has already developed such strength that his nomination is a certainty unless a diversion from him can be brought about in this manner.

It is Ohio and McKinley against the field, with a very strong chance of winning hands down at St. Louis.

A CASE IN POINT.

The Blade's Washington correspondence, showing the enormous increase in importations of various manufacturers since the repeal of the McKinley law, is attracting much attention among the people who were employed in those lines of industry, whose employment has been greatly reduced by these large importations and their wages cut down as well.

The enormous interests affected by these attacks upon the manufacturing establishments of the country are fully shown by a comparison of the importation figures with those which indicate the number of people and the wages paid in the manufacture of the classes of articles imported.

In the matter of woolen goods, for instance. The total value of importations under the McKinley law was less than $20,000,000 in its last year of operation, and the 80,000 men and women employed in the manufacture of woolen goods in this country earned over $28,000,000. The repeal of the McKinley law was the signal for an enormous increase of imports of such goods, and the first year after its enactment brought more than $60,000,000 worth of woollens into the United States, as against less than $20,000,000 worth under the McKinley law.

It is not surprising that the 80,000 men and women of this country employed in the manufacture of woollen goods found their earnings cut down many millions of dollars. It is estimated that the wages paid in the manufacture of woollen goods now are fully $12,000,000 less than they were under the McKinley law—a loss of a million dollars a month to this one section of the working classes of the United States. Owners of woollen mills through New England and the country generally say frankly that, while they have been able to keep their mills running, in many cases they cannot much longer stand the strain resulting from the repeal of the McKinley law and the enormous importations which followed it.

OUR DECREASING EXPORTS.

The facility with which the average Democrat can extract comfort from the feeble workings of the Wilson tariff law would do honor to the late lamented Mark Tapley. It is amusing to note the efforts in defense of the Wilson law by those who are assuming that a slight increase in the exports of manufactured articles means complete success of that law. Because the exports of manufacturers have increased slightly, while all other exports have fallen off, they find great cause for adoration of the mongrel measure.

These Democrats forget, however, that a comparison of the total figures shows that our sales abroad under the McKinley law were very much greater in every year of its operation than under the Wilson law. In the closing year of the McKinley law—the fiscal year 1894—the exports were $869,204,937, while those of the year just ended under the Wilson law were $807,740,016. In the first fiscal year in which the McKinley law operated, the exports were $872,270,283. In the second year in which it operated they were $1,-$15,732,011. In its third fiscal year they were $831,030,785.

Thus, in the four years in which the McKinley law was in operation, there was not a single one in which the exports fell to as low a point as those of the first calendar year of the Wilson law. The average annual exports during the four years of the McKinley law were $897,000,000 per annum, while those of the Wilson law, as far as shown, are $807,000,000 per annum, or a loss of $90,000,000 a year. This amounts to $250,000 a day. The country is therefore losing a quarter of a million a day in the amount of money which its gets from abroad from its sales under the Wilson law as compared with the average under the McKinley law.

John Dillon is an ideal man for the Irish parliamentary party, if it wishes to keep in hot water all the time. John has the regular Donnybrook fair habit of hitting every head that comes in sight.

The provision of the law against alien contract labor, which gives one-third of the fine to the informer, is making things lively. So far the government has thus paid $20,000 to informers.

The Morgan syndicate might take that Cuban loan while waiting for another issue of United States bonds.

The third term scheme appears to have sand in its eyes.

AN AMERICAN "FREE PORT."

The proposition to establish a "free port" at the eastern end of Long Island, and for others wherever desired, under certain government regulations, is being pressed before this Congress, and is apparently finding favor with protestionists. A "free port" is a port surrounded by such restrictions that articles taken from it into the country must pay the same rates of duty as those which come from a foreign country. Goods from abroad coming into that free port, however, come free of duty. The advantage is to make it possible to bring foreign goods free of duty to American soil, and have them entered there for manufacturing purposes or for trans-shipment to other parts of the world. This method has been adopted in several instances in Europe with marked success.

Mr. Austin Corbin, who owns the line of road stretching from New York city to the eastern end of Long Island, is the chief mover in the scheme for the free port at Fort Pond Bay, Long Island, which point, he says, is 200 miles nearer to European ports than is New York city, and from which ocean liners will make the trip in one day dess than is now occupied in the trans-Atlantic voyage.

The proposition for a free port at Fort Pond Bay is simply an extension of the bonded warehouse system. The free port will be exactly like the bonded warehouse, now located at the water's edge on any of our harbors Instead of being a single building, however, a line will be drawn from the water around a tract of land of sufficient size, a wall will be constructed, inclosing the land, and within the enclosure there will be warehouses; the whole port to be made safe by one bond of the proprietors, and also, if deemed necessary, by an additional bond for each of the warehouses.

Free ports like that described are now existing at Hamburg, Bremen and Copenhagen, and have proved very valuable. Necessarily, the business of an European free port is much greater than will exist at the beginning of a free port in the United States; yet is is believed that there would be business enough in the transfer of merchandise from vessel to vessel, and in the shipment of manufactured articles to West Indian and South American ports, as well as to European, to make the enterprise profitable.

At all events, persons with ample means stand ready to make the experiment, if encouragement should be given by the government, through an extension of the bonded warehouse system. If the experiment is successful, additional ports will be made; if unsuccessful, the loss will fall upon the proprietors, and not upon the public.

Mr. Corbin says the free port which he and his associates propose to establish would enable steamships to make the trip to Europe in five days. The gentlemen proposing to establish the enterprise will expend a million dollars in the construction of a breakwater to make the port a safe one. Within the free port there would be established large manufactories, which would give employment to a very large number of American workingmen. If they could have an opportunity of doing the manufacturing on American soil they could give employment to citizens of the United States instead of employing foreigners, as they are, of course, compelled to do now while their manufacturing is performed in foreign countries.

This proposition seems to be finding friends in Congress. It is observed, however, that its advocates are mostly Eastern men, and one reason for its popularity is that it will aid in holding in the East the manufacturing element which in late years has been seeking better fields in the great Mississippi valley.

CARLISLE GUESSING AGAIN.

Secretary Carlisle is preparing to send a communication to Congress, revising again his estimate of the deficiency for the fiscal year. He estimated sixty days ago that the deficiency for the year ending June 30, 1896, will be $17,000,000; but it is already $28,000,000, and galloping along at the rate of $100,000 a day. In this matter of estimates it is rather curious and interesting to observe the work of Secretary Carlisle from the beginning of his term down to the present moment.

His first estimate of the workings of the revenue system was sent to Congress December 19, 1893. He then estimated that the receipts for the fiscal year ending June 20, 1894, would be $430,121,635. The figures produced at the end of the fiscal year, only six months and 22 days after his estimate, were $372,802,498, showing that he was a trifle of $57,000,000 in excess of the facts in his optimistic estimate. It is interesting to remark in connection with this that his estimate for the fiscal year ending June 20, 1895, which was sent to Congress in his first report, was over $64,000,000 in excess of what the revenues footed up.

Another curious and interesting fact is developed by a study of Mr. Carlisle's estimates, for it shows that he officially admitted that he did not expect as much of the Wilson law as he did of the old Meinley tariff law. In his report to Congress, dated December 18, 1893, he says: "It is estimated upon the basis of existing laws, the revenues of the government for the fiscal year 1895, will be $454,427,-704." This estimate, it must be remembered was made when the McKinley law was the "existing law," upon which he based his estimates of the receipts. One year later, when the Wilson tariff act had been in operation three months and was the "existing law," he says in his report to Congress: "The revenues of the government for the current fiscal year (1895) are based upon the basis of existing laws at $424,427,748." This shows that he estimated the year's receipts under the Wilson law at $30,000,000 less than he had estimated they would be under the McKinley law.

Mr. Carlisle's "estimates" are not even more guesses; they are deliberate misstatements, made to bolster up the preposterous claim that the Wilson law will supply sufficient revenue. It has not, it does not, it will not, and it can not. What the country needs is the additional revenue which the Dingley emergency bill will provide; and every citizen hopes that the Senate, now that its free silver substitute has received such a knockdown blow in the House, will pass the Dingley law, and give the Treasury enough money for its legitimate needs.

Governor Evans, of South Carolina, recommends an improvement in the quality of dispensary whisky, and that no liquor detrimental to "health and good morals" shall be brought into the state. That is so strong a bid for popularity that the whole country is wondering what fat office he has in his eye.

It is estimated that 90 per cent. of the tea used in this country is adulterated with plumbago, Prussian blue or willow leaves. Yet people will buy the cheapest teas, irrespective of adulteration. The average individual thinks cheapness the summum bonum.

The total amount realized from the bond issue will be $111,378,836.97, the average rate, therefore, being 111.3788. The government makes a profit of $1,378,-800 by not repeating its last contract with the Morgan syndicate.

UNDER THE DOME.

The monthly report of Col. Wilson, who has charge of the public buildings and grounds, contains an interesting statement concerning the Washington monument. During the month of January, the report says, there were 12,537 visitors to the top of the monument, of which number 9,025 ascended by the elevator and 3,512 by the stairway, making a total of 1,186,689 persons who have visited the top since the monument was opened to the public, October 9, 1888. Inasmuch as there is no charge for riding up in the elevator the 3,512 who climbed 500 feet to the top of the platform did it for the sake of saying they had made the climb. It is safe to say they will never do it again. No person clothed in flesh and his right mind would make the climb twice. Many people ride up and walk down. It takes nine minutes for the elevator to ascend, and a person must walk fast to descend in twenty minutes. When he gets down he finds there is something the matter with his knees, and he rejoices exceedingly that he did not walk up.

It is seldom that two men bearing the same name, but being in no way related, look so much alike as Senator Mitchell, of Wisconsin, and Senator Mitchell, of Oregon. Oddly enough, too, both bear the name of John. The Wisconsin Senator is John L. Mitchell, the Oregon Senator, John H. Mitchell. Everybody in Wisconsin knows how the Wisconsin Senator looks. The Oregon Senator is of similar build, but not so square shouldered. He, too, has long gray whiskers, but instead of wearing them very bushy as the Wisconsin man does, he wears them slightly pointed. By allowing his whiskers to spread out a little and brushing his hair slightly different, he could make himself the picture of the Wisconsin man. As it is, the resemblance is so strong that a Milwaukee lady, sitting in the gallery while the Oregon Senator was speaking, and being told that it was "Senator Mitchell," went home believing that she had heard the Wisconsin Senator make a speech. Senator Mitchell's Oregon double is a lawyer and a very able gentleman. He is serving his third term in the Senate, and is regarded as one of the ablest men on the Republican side.

There is a debatable question which must sooner or later be officially determined by the proper authorities of the House, and that is as to the limit of age which will exclude the sons of members from the privileges of the floor.

It has been customary in modern times to allow Congressmen to have their young hopefuls with them during regular sessions, whether the motive was simply to gratify their curiosity or teach them the rudiments of political ethics. Champ Clark, in the last Congress, more often had his eight-year-old boy with him than otherwise. Mr. Bailey at times has his six-year-old boy with him. Recently other members have somewhat raised that limit, and youths of twelve and fourteen have been seen upon the floor when the House was in session, relying upon their parental influence to save them from ejectment by the doorkeepers.

As a matter of fact, under the rules, an infant of one year can only be permitted upon the floor by sufferance, which constitutes a technical violation of the rules. The question of courtesy is being put to sore straits, and it is evident that instructions will soon of necessity be issued restricting the privileges of the floor to those specified by law as being entitled to them.

The Nicaragua canal project is receiving a great deal of attention in both the House and the Senate and there is not much doubt that it will receive the aid of this Congress in one shape or another. There are a number of propositions before the House, but the two that are receiving consideration propose the issue of government bonds to complete the work, or the endorsement of the company's bonds to enable it to raise the money. A sub-committee of the house committee on commerce is now preparing a bill for presentation to the House. It is composed of seven members who are greatly interested in the project and they will report a plan with as little delay as possible in order to have action upon it before Congress adjourns. Nothing is known as to the probable outline of the plan they will propose, but it is believed it will be one that will meet the approval of the members and the people. It is known that a very great number of members are favorably disposed toward the project, and the only danger comes from the disposition of the leaders to keep appropriations down on account of the condition of the Treasury.

Speaking of the practicability of constructing the canal on the proposed line, a coast survey engineer, who some years ago investigated and surveyed the lines of all the proposed canals, said the other day that the Nicaragua plan was the most feasible that had been proposed. The only difficulty, he said, was the construction of the immense locks that would be necessary to reach the level of Lake Nicaragua, and he expressed the opinion that the projectors were making a mistake in decreasing the number and increasing the size of the locks. The actual cutting to be done is much less than people generally suppose. The lake is 56½ miles long, the San Juan river is to be made navigable for 64½ miles by means of a dam, and that leaves only 35 miles, of which 27 is through excavation. The level of the canal will be 110 feet above the sea. The engineer referred to believes that the estimated cost, $65,000,000, is too low, but asserts that $100,000,000 (which is $35,-000,000 less than the estimate of the Nicaraguan commission), honestly expended, would build the canal.

Senator Peffer tells a good story on himself, and seems to enjoy its ludicrous features as much as as any one. In good society a married lady making a formal call, upon retiring, leaves a card for herself, one for her husband, and also one for each daughter in society for the lady upon whom she calls, and a similar assortment for each of her daughters. Thus, in some in some instances, it becomes necessary to leave a whole deck at every house where receiving is being done. A lady friend of whom the senator is a great admirer, was calling upon his wife. The senator engaged her in animated conversation until the time for her departure was at hand. During the conversation she selected the requisite number of cards, which was usually large in view of numerous daughters, and deposited them on the card table. As the visitor was bidding adieu and turned to leave, Mr. Peffer caught sight of the bunch of cards. In his simplicity he imagined that she had laid them down temporarily and neglected to repossess herself of them, consequently he hastily gathered up the dainty bits of pasteboard, overtook the caller as she reached the door, and, holding them in his extended hand, said:

"Mrs. ——, you have forgotten your cards, and here they are."

The lady withdrew, both amused and confused, while Mrs. Peffer seized her husband and proceeded to enlighten him in the mysteries of swell society.

When a new Congressman comes to Washington and looks around for a place in which to house himself and family he discovers that either rent or board will take a very considerable portion of his salary. If he secures board for himself in a respectable place for $75 a month, or a house for his family in a good part of the city for $100 a month, he concludes that he is lucky, and yet the city is full of boarding-houses and houses to rent. Go in any direction one will, on any street except some of the very fashionable ones, he will find dozens of houses with "for rent" signs stuck on them. Sometimes there will be a row nearly a block long, all empty. A Washington paper stated not long ago that there were 6,000 unoccupied houses in the city, and the number was probably not overestimated. Under these circumstances it is strange that rents are not low, but they are not. What keeps them up is a mystery. Landlords complain, however, that there is no money in renting houses because land is so valuable and the cost of the houses so great. It is said that the only kind of houses that pay in Washington are the "alley houses," which are cheap houses built on the rear of lots and rented to colored people. They bring low rent, but as the investment is small, they pay.

With McKinley a candidate, Ohio will give a record breaking plurality this year.

SOME PROMINENT PEOPLE.

Prof. Archibald Geikie, the distinguished British geologist, is coming to the United States on a lecturing tour.

The Vanderbilt families in New York pay their florists $1,000 per month at Christmas and Easter. Cornelius Vanderbilt often spends as much as $600 for floral decorations in his home.

Nobody knew who Rev. Herbert D. Ward, the new Massachusetts prison commissioner, was until the Boston Globe let out the secret that he is the husband of Elizabeth Stuart Phelps.

Miss Alice C. Fletcher, who has devoted years to the study of the customs of the Indians of the Northwest, has been elected one of the sectional vice presidents of the American association for the Advancement of Science. The honors of Miss Fletcher are the first of the sort extended to a woman by the association.

Mr. Baring-Gould thinks out many of his plots lying in bed. The foundations of more than one story have been developed in a single sleepless night. He makes no notes except a brief sketch of each chapter.

The statue of Ole Bull which the Scandinavians of Minnesota are to erect in Minneapolis is being modeled by Fields, the Scandinavian sculptor of that city. It is expected that the bronze statue will be completed in about six months.

The new Russian minister, M. Kotzebue, will arrive in Washington early this month. His full name is Ernst Charles Kotzebue, and he is of German origin. He was in the naval service several years, and comes of a family distinguished for its military service.

Thomas Bailey Aldrich and Mrs. Aldrich will start this month on a yachting cruise to the West Indies with a party of friends, including Mrs. James F. Fields and Miss Sarah Orne Jewett. They will be gone several months.

C. A. Monkovsky, chief government engineer of the department of Eastern Siberia, is at present in San Francisco studying certain features of American railroading. His mission is said to be in connection with the proposed construction of a number of lines of railroad in Eastern Siberia.

Miss Caroline B. Hendricks, a daughter of the late A. W. Hendricks, and a niece of Governor Thomas A. Hendricks, was admitted recently to practice law in the Circuit and Superior courts of Marion county, being the first woman admitted to the bar Indiana. Miss Hendricks has the honor of in that county.

GOSSIP FROM ABROAD

Portraits of the German Emperor were shown in London shops after he had sent his cable dispatch to the Boers, marked "Reduced to sixpence from 1l."

The "Chartered Company" of South Africa demands one-half of all the paid-in capital of all the companies formed in its domains. If, for instance, a gold mining company has £200,000 subscribed by the public, the "Chartered Company" would get £100,000, the "promoters" (on an average) £70,000, and only £30,000 would remain as working capital.

England has a weather crank who simply swipes away from all the records made in that direction on this side of the Atlantic. He recently issued a circular which reads: "By the discovery of means for regulating a force termed Odylic force, I can, with something akin to certainty, arrange for current weather to be such as you might consider best for the requirements of your business. If, therefore, you or any of the other leading firms in your kind of business would, singly or in combination, arrange with me, I would from time to time effect such changes in the weather, by means of Odylic force, as might be considered most desirable or necessary. Hoping to receive a reply, I remain, your truly, J. Collinson."

The Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia are passing the winter at Naples in consequence of the differences that recently arose between the Prince and his imperial brother, the Emperor.

Earthquakes killed 1,100 persons in Persia on January 2 and 5.

The French Academy now has a father and son as members, a very rare occurrence in its history. Marcel Bertrand, the son of Joseph Bertrand, the mathematician, has been elected in the place of the late M. Pasteur.

Russia has discarded the Krupp guns from its artillery service and adopted guns of the French Bange system.

Prince Henry of Battenberg's death from fever contracted on the Ashanti expedition was attributed to his being "out of condition," but Major Ferguson, of the Horse Guards, who also died of it, was one of the most perfectly trained athletes in the British Army.

Friedrich Haase has just bidden farewell to the stage at Berlin, on the fiftieth anniversary of his first appearance. He acted in New York in 1851 at the Germania theatre, now the Star, when Neuendorf tried to make German plays pay on upper Broadway.

Eleanora Duse has received the rare honor of the medal for arts and sciences from the King of Sweden. She also received the King's photograph with his autograph, but earned it by listening to King Oscar while he played and sang to her a ballad of his own composition.

THE FEMININE OBSERVER.

The posy ribbons will be the summer rage.

Heavy reading is the fad of the up-to-date girl.

Nest building and house hunting begin in February.

Tobacco water is an excellent wash for potted plants.

To be correct the hat must be poised well over the forehead.

Prunes filled with almonds make delicious dinner sweetmeats.

Pizarre effects in millinery are the desideratum of spring style.

Chocolate conversaziones are to be morning diversions in Lent.

Fancy girdles will figure conspicuously in the summer girl's wardrobe.

The scent of lavender is just sufficiently oldtimey to be quite up to date.

Purple ink is fashionable but unreliable if you expect your communications read.

How aghast is the woman who says "do log me pay" when she gets her wish.

The muscle mounted in gold is used by the swell girl in place of her lorgnette.

A feather boa out of curl is not lively even though its original cost was twenty dollars.

A long-stemmed rose laid in my lady's card case is a dainty custom noted in a round of calls.

A ruffle of yellow miroir velvet worn by a parchment-faced d

Publishers' Column.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person, who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

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Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Lippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Sinking of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
Battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo.
Battle of Williamsburg, Va.
Fall of Petersburg, Va.
Battle of Opequan or Winchester, Va.

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Battle of Waterloo.
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Battle of Mars-la-Tour.
Die Hermann's Schlacht.
Battle near Orleans.
Battle of Fontenoy.

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WATERPROOF OVERCOATS.

The goods we offered to the subscribers of The Blade last year met with such favor that we have concluded this year to extend our list of waterproof coats for men and ladies. The prices this year will be somewhat lower than last, and we have added to the list. We offer both single texture and double texture, sewed and seamed. These goods are not pasted together, but SUBSTANTIALLY SEWED.

We prepay express charges, and deliver these goods at your nearest express office. When you order, please give your postoffice and your express office address.

Men's Waterproofs, Double Texture, With Detachable Capes.

No. 500 black diagonal, double stitch seams..... $2 50
No. 501 tan diagonal, double stitch seams 5 00
No. 502, blue diagonal, double stitch seams..... 5 50
No. 550, Black Henrietta, double stitch seams..... 6 00
No. 551, Blue Henrietta, double stitch seams..... 6 00
No. 552, Tan Covert, double stitch seams..... 6 00
No. 600, Black All Wool, double stitch seams..... 7 50
No. 601, Blue All Wool, double stitch seams..... 7 50

Men's Double-Breasted Box, Velvet Collar, No Cape.

No. 700, Black, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped..... $8 00
No. 701, Blue, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped..... 8 00

Regular sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, breast measure. A 40-inch coat is supposed to fit a man whose breast measure over his under coat is 40 inches. State size you want.

Women's Macintoshes—Inverness Garments. (Sleeveless.)

No. 800, single texture, fast black, with 27-inch cape, unlined..... $4 00
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No. 802, single texture, fast blue, with 27-inch cape, unlined..... 4 00
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No. 804, double texture, fast blue Henrietta, 27-inch cape..... 6 00
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Give your bust measure and length down the back from collar seam to bottom of skirt. We shall require some little time for either these orders, as they have to be forwarded first to the factory, after we get the orders, and in most cases the garments are made to order. Nevertheless, therefore, would not look for these goods sooner than three weeks after they mail us the order. Address

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ON HIS BLINDNESS.

When I consider how my light is spent
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,
And that one talent which is death to hide
Lodged with me useless, though my soul more bent
To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest He returning chide,
"Doth God exact day-labor, light denied?"
I fondly ask. But patience, to prevent
That murmur, soon replied: "God doth not need
Either man's work, or His own gifts; who best
Bear His mild yoke, they serve Him best. His state
Is kingly: thousands at His bidding speed
And post o'er land and ocean without rest.
They also serve who only stand and wait."
—John Milton.

Family Pride.

Though you may boast no family tree
To bring you power or pelf,
Just hustle around and try to be
An ancestor yourself.
—Washington Star.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6673—MISS'S WAIST.

Fancy plaid silk, with ground of dark blue and green, crossed with lines of garnet and yellow is here stylishly trimmed with dark blue velvet and decorated with dull gilt nail-head buttons. The full waist is arranged over fitting linings, and closes in center front under the box-plait of velvet. The fronts droop slightly over the belt in blouse style, the seamless back being smooth across the shoulders and gathered in center at the waist line. The full bishop sleeves droop gracefully from gathers at the top, over comfortably fitted linings, and are completed at the wrist by velvet cuffs, shaped with pointed ends to match the stripes over the shoulders. A full stock collar covers the close-fitting collar, and Paquin points of velvet flare apart in front. A crush belt of velvet encircles the waist. Blouse waists in this style are very becoming to young misses, and can be prettily developed from any silk or soft woolen goods and trimmed or plainly finished, as preferred.

No. 6673—MISS'S WAIST.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this waist for a miss 12 years old is 2¼ yards, for a 14-year-old size, 2⅝ yards; for a 16-year-old size, 2¾ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6673, and retails for 25 cents, is cut in sizes for 12, 14 and 16 years' old misses.

NO. 6638—LADY'S WAIST.

Fancy Persian velvet and red satin is here decorated with jet embroidery. The waist is fitted in front with single bust darts, and can be made with a seamless back, and closed at left shoulder and under-arm seam; or with a French back and closed invisibly in the center, as illustrated, or with the usual [illegible] back and closed in either preferred way, the pattern providing for all styles. The neck is finished with a close-fitting collar, over which a stock of ribbon is tied in a large spreading bow, with ends at the back. Comfortable sleeve linings are faced in pointed outline, with red satin covered with jet embroidery, in vermicelli pattern, and gathered puffs of velvet being arranged stylishly at the top. Waists in this style are chosen by ladies of good figure to display rich fabrics and handsome garniture of lace or passementerie, the style being often changed by the addition of dainty waist accessories now fashionable.

No. 6638—LADY'S WAIST.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this waist for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 2¾ yards; for a 36-inch size, 3 yards; for a 40-inch size, 3¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6638 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch, 40-inch and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 6663—CHILD'S FRENCH DRESS.

Fancy striped batiste in ecru and pale green is here made up over pale green taffeta, the collar, insertion and all-over embroidery that forms the shallow yoke being of ecru batiste. The long blouse waist is arranged over fitted body linings, covered with the embroidery, and the closing is made invisibly in center back. The pretty bertha collar is of plain batiste over green taffeta, outlined with insertion, double square tabs falling over each shoulder, with straight outline, on front and back. Full, long drooping puffs are arranged over comfortable linings that have cuff facings edged with insertion at the wrists, the standing collar being of insertion to match. The full round skirt is fashionable length is gathered at the top and joined to the lower edge of the body, the blouse drooping over the top as shown. Pretty dresses of plaid or mixed woolens, combined with velvet, or silk, can be developed by the mode for best or school wear. Cotton wash fabrics will make up stylishly by this pattern with collar of colored chambray or batiste.

No. 6663—CHILD'S FENCH DRESS.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this dress for a child two years old is 2¾ yards; for a six-year-old size, 3 yards; for a ten-year-old size, 3¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6663 and retails for 25 cents, is cut in sizes for two, four, six, eight and ten years.

NO. 6674—LADY'S LOUIS XV BASQUE.

Handsome green broadcloth, velvet a shade darker, and changeable broaded silk, form this stylish combination, black ostrich feather ruching and large shaded pearl buttons providing the decoration. The stylish basque of fashionable length is shaped to form ripples below the waist line, the double-breasted fronts being cut off at the lower edges, to simulate a vest in modified Louis XV. style. The full chemisette is gathered top and bottom, and arranged closing with the collar at the left shoulder, and under rever. A belt of velvet, wrinkled by gathers at each end, crosses the fronts at the waist, the silk blousing slightly over the belt. The jacket basque is glove-fitting to the waist line, below which the seams are sprung to give the fashionable ripple effect. The loose-fitting fronts roll back in graduated lapels that stand out in points from the shoulders. Full gigot sleeves are shaped with single seams and gathered at the top over comfortably fitted linings, the wrists being plainly completed. Plain or mixed woolens will develop stylishly by the mode, with velvet and silk to match, or contrast widely. The revers can be faced with silk or velvet or decorated with gimp if more elaborate finish is desired. One material alone can be used, and the yoke decorated with rows of gimp, insertion or passementerie.

No. 6674—LADY'S LOUIS XV. BASQUE.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this basque for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 3½ yards; for a 36-inch size, 3¾ yards; for a 40-inch size, 4 yards; for a 42-inch size, 4¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6674 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch, 40-inch and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 6676—LADY'S SHIRT WAIST.

Ecru batiste is here neatly decorated with narrow bias strips of blue chambray stitched on each edge. The back and front yokes are made double, the under yoke being straight on its lower edge. The gathers are joined to the straight lower edge of under yoke or lining, and the pointed yoke is stitched down on its lower edges, thus insuring a neat and strong finish. The right front is finished with a box plait stitched on, through which buttonholes are worked for the studs or buttons used in closing. A narrow casing is applied at the waist line in back, through which tapes are drawn and tied over the fronts, to adjust the fullness under the belt that encircles the waist. The turndown collar is mounted on a high standing band, which can be joined to the shirt waist or made separately as preferred, the neck being finished with a fitted band to which it can be buttoned. Large gigot shirt sleeves are gathered top and bottom, straight cuffs completing the wrists that are closed with tink studs. Cuff openings are made at the back of sleeves, which are finished with under and over laps, pointed at the ends. The decoration can be omitted and the edges plainly stitched. The handsome new designs shown in summer wash fabrics, intended for shirt waists, insure their continued popularity through the coming season, and ladies are already selecting from the new goods—batiste, percale, lawn, satteen, cambric and dimity—to develop stylish shirt waists by the mode.

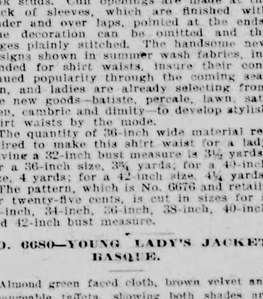
6676—LADY'S SHIRT WAIST.

The quantity of 36-inch wide material required to make this shirt waist for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 3½ yards; for a 36-inch size, 3¾ yards; for a 40-inch size, 4 yards; for a 42-inch size, 4¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6676 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for a 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch, 40-inch and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 6680—YOUNG LADY'S JACKET BASQUE.

Almond green faced cloth, brown velvet and changeable taffeta, showing both shades are stylishly united in this handsome jacket basque, a row of gimp decorating the lower edge of yoke. The full fronts of silk and seamless yoke of velvet are arranged over fitted linings that close in center, the yoke



6680—YOUNG LADIES' JACKET BASQUE

works at Ford City, near Kittanning, belongs the honor of being the first to put up atomoglass. He is a wide-awake mechanic, and after his mother died he conceived the idea of erecting to her memory a monument of plate glass.

Several months ago the company had a large order for plate glass of unusual thickness. It was made for the construction of circular panes to cover the portholes of ocean steamships. The practical indestructibility of glass was the quality which suggested to Mr. Pepper its use in the cemetery. He says that marble and granite, which are supposed to be almost eternal in their hardness are really far from it, and not at all to be compared with glass. Wind and rain, heat and cold have their effect on stone of any kind, and finally wear away and crumble the hardest granite. In old graveyards, where stones were erected many years ago, he says, those on which the lettering can be made out are exceptions. The stones themselves will be found crumbling, and the outlines of the letters carved in them obliterated. This is not the case with glass.

The Pepper monument is of plate glass one inch thick, a foot and a half wide and four feet high. It stands in a mortise cut into a cube of sandstone. The top of the glass is arched. The lettering on it is made by sand blast process, and is distinct. The monument bears the inscription:

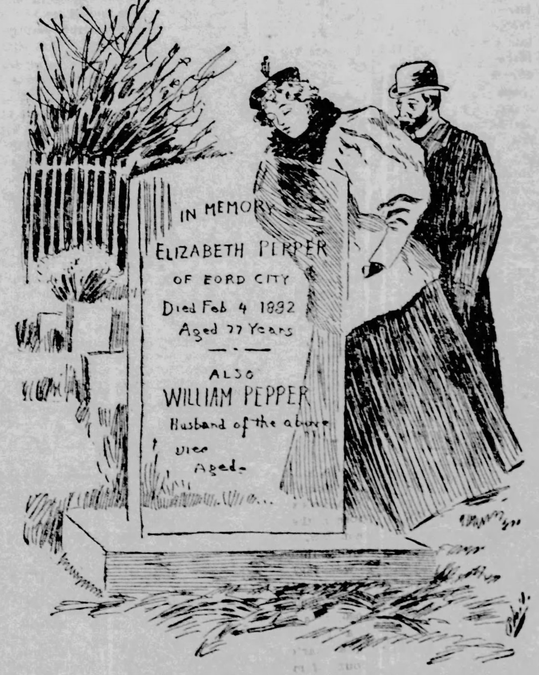
"In memory of Elizabeth Pepper, of Ford City. Died February 4, 1892. Aged 77 years. Also William Pepper, husband of above. Died ——. Aged ——."

From this inscription may be inferred truly, that William Pepper is still living. The Peppers are of English birth, and came to Ford City years ago, directly from the great Biltingham Glass works, in London.

The Kittanning cemetery possesses many natural and artificial beauties. It has been handsomely laid out, with winding walks, stately trees and ornamental shrubbery and in it are many a pretentious monument. Not one of the piles of marble and granite attracts so much attention as the piece of polished glass, with its clear inscription, which stands on a gentle slope falling slowly from the hilltop.

The new use for plate glass is likely to become extended, for it has many things to recommend it. The transparency and purity of the material are suggestive and appropriate. It is easily and quickly etched, its cost is not great, and in durability it surpasses that of any other available material.

Mr. Pepper has not taken out a patent on his glass tombstone, and any person may put up a similar monument.



THE EVERLASTING GLASS TOMBSTONE.

Drs. Maybe and Mustbe.

You choose the old doctor before the young one. Why? Because you don't want to entrust your life in inexperienced hands. True, the young doctor *may* be experienced. But the old doctor *must* be. You take no chances with Dr. Maybe, when Dr. Mustbe is in reach. Same with medicines as with medicine makers—the long-tried remedy has your confidence. You prefer experience to experiment—when you are concerned. The new remedy *may* be good—but let somebody else prove it. The old remedy *must* be good—judged on its record of cures. Just one more reason for choosing *AYER'S* Sarsaparilla in preference to any other. It has been the standard household Sarsaparilla for half a century. Its record inspires confidence—*50 years of cures.* If others *may be* good, Ayer's Sarsaparilla *must be.* You take no chances when you take *AYER'S* Sarsaparilla.

Still have doubts? Send for the "Curebook."
It kills doubts and cures doubters.
J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

OLD FAVORITES.

Published by request.

THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE WORLD.

Blessings on the hand of woman!
Angels guard her strength and grace
In the cottage, palace, hovel,
O, no matter where the place!
Would that never storms assailed it;
Rainbows ever gently curled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Infancy's the tender fountain;
Power may with beauty flow,
Mothers first to guide the streamlet,
From them souls unresting grow.
Grow on for good or evil,
Sunshine streamed or darkness hurled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Women, how divine your mission
Here upon our natal sod;
Keep, oh, keep the young heart open
Always to the breath of God!
All true trophies of the ages
Are from mother love impearled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
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Blessings on the hand of woman!
Fathers, sons and daughters cry,
And the sacred song is mingled
With the worship of the sky.
Mingles where no tempest darkens,
Rainbows evermore are curled;
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—Wm. Ross Wallace.

—In cases where dandruff, scalp diseases, falling and grayness of the hair appear, do not neglect them, but apply a proper remedy and tonic like Hall's Hair Renewer.

WILL LAST FOREVER.

A Pennsylvania Novelty in Cemetery Monuments.

In the little graveyard at Kittanning, on the Allegheny river, forty-five miles from Pittsburg, there stands a tombstone which is perhaps the only one of its kind in the United States, if not in the world, says the New York Journal. More properly speaking, it is a tombglass, as it is made entirely of the best American polished plate. The unique monument is pointed out to strangers as the greatest curiosity of the town. Kittanning people say they have changed the style in grave markers.

To Matthias Pepper, the assistant superintendent of the Pittsburg Plate Glass

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

To get BUST or BREAST measure, put the tape measure all of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

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FACTS ABOUT OUR COINAGE.

Money-Making Began in This Country 284 Years Ago.

The earliest coinage of America was made in 1612 for the Virginia company at Sommer's Islands, now called the Bermudas. In 1645 the assembly of Virginia provided by law for the coinage of copper pieces, but the law was not carried into effect, says the New York Dispatch. The earliest regular colonial coinage was in Massachusetts, in pursuance of an order of the general court, passed May 27, 1652. The coins, 12-pence, 6-pence and 3-pence pieces, were soon afterward put into circulation. There was a Massachusetts 2-penny piece. One variety of the Massachusetts coinage had what is termed "a pine tree," another "a willow," and the third "an oak." The first coinage of that colony was the "pine tree shilling" of 1650; the 2-penny and the 1-penny pieces were coined in 1652. In 1785 the congress of the confederation adopted the plan presented by Thomas Jefferson for the national coinage, and in 1786 decided upon the names and characters of the coins. In 1787 a contract was made with James Jarvis for 300 tons of the copper coins authorized by congress. These were coined at New Haven and bore the date of 1787. In 1792 a code of laws was enacted for the establishment and regulation of the mint, which was established in 1793. The first issue of cents from the mint of Philadelphia was in 1793. The regular issue of the half-dime was in 1794, but a half-dime styled the "Martha Washington" was coined in 1792 as an experimental or pattern piece. The first issue of silver dollars was in 1794, and of dimes in 1796. The first golden coinage in eagles and half-eagles was in 1795.

CURES FOR A COLD.

Sit so that the back is near the fire and stay there until it is thoroughly warmed.

Soak the feet in mustard water as hot as can be endured.

Drink a glass of hot water and Scotch whisky, then jump into bed and have blankets heaped upon you.

If the cold begins with a chill start immediately to drink hot lemonade.

The Office-Seeker.

You never find your merits are so small,
Your vices are so many and so great,
You never find you are no good at all
Until for office you're a candidate.

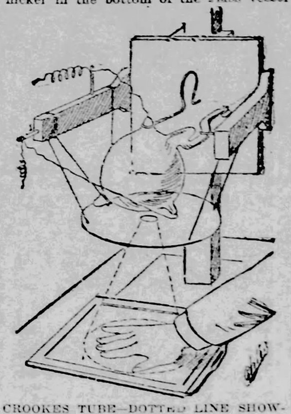
THE X RAYS.

A CHICAGO REPORTER HAS HIS FOOT PHOTOGRAPHED.

Success of the Experiment—Effect of the X Rays in One and a Half Hours' Exposure.

For a week or more Chicago has been stirred to the depths of its scientific soul by a series of experiments conducted by C. E. Scribner, the inventor-electrician of the Western Electric company, and Dr. James Burry, physician for the Illinois Steel company. The doctor purchased a Crookes tube, and the two have been experimenting with the X rays. The Chicago Post tells of their latest experimenting:

An ill-shapen glass globe, suggestive of a bungling job of an amateur glass-blower, so many are the knobs and barnacles on its exterior—such is the much-famed Crookes tube. A yellow-greenish flicker in the bottom of the glass vessel



CROOKES TUBE—DOTTED LINE SHOWING X RAYS.

or tube as the scientists call it—not a light by any means, but a dancing shadow light such as appears on the walls of a room when the small boy amuses himself switching off and on an incandescent light—such is the still more famous X ray, which has set the whole scientific world a-thinking.

"Green moonlight sprayed by an atomizer" was the description of an imaginative bystander hazarded after watching for a few moments the greenish flicker which dawned on the inner surface of the queer-shaped globe.

To the reporter's suggestion that he might be allowed to form the subject of an experiment, Inventor Scribner willingly signified his assent. An armchair was placed on the table for the "subject" to make himself as comfortable as possible during the hour and a half's "exposure" necessary to get at the bones in the reporter's foot.

Directly below the globe in which the X ray makes its appearance, a circular sheet of lead was hung by wires strung to the wooden supports of the Crookes tube itself. In the center of this leaden sheet was a hole about an inch in diameter, which Mr. Scribner explained was what he called a diaphragm.

"You must not move a hair's breadth for an hour at least," said Dr. Burry, who superintended the operation, which began to assume features of an electrocution as the newspaper man in stocking feet climbed up to his elevated perch.

Then the photographer's plate, inclosed in an ordinary wooden box with slide arrangement, such as the picture man carries under his arm and thrusts into the camera as he bids his victim "hold his chin just a little bit higher and look pleasant," was placed flat on the table directly underneath the diaphragm and suspended Crookes tube. With many an

PHOTOGRAPH OF FOOT AND PENCIL.

injunction to look out for this wire, and to be careful not to knock over that electric machine, the reporter was told to place his foot on the wooden slide. A daylight-proof black cloth was swathed around the newspaper man's foot.

"Make yourself perfectly comfortable, and tell me when you are good and ready," said Dr. Burry, as the "subject" snuggled down and planted himself firmly in the arm chair.

Then the artist, who had seen the sheriff give the signal at a hanging waved his handkerchief. A whirring, sputtering, crackling noise among the machines on the table behind the reporter's chair announced that the X ray was "on." The experiment of taking the first picture of the bones of a human foot had begun.

An hour and a half later in a darkened room upstairs, in another part of the big factory, the group of newspaper-men who had assembled in the laboratory while the subject was on the operating table, had the satisfaction of seeing what effect years of chasing the elusive newsitem has upon the bones of a human foot. A lead pencil placed upon the plate alongside the foot was plainly photographed through it. The wooden covering of the graphite was as invisible under the X ray as it was useless in the work on which the accompanying foot had worn itself gnarled and twisted. But the graphite itself and the bones of the human foot showed up clear and distinct.

"How does it feel?" was the question frequently addressed to the reporter by Dr. Burry while the operation was in progress. To describe the effect of the X ray upon human nerves and tissue would require more favorable conditions than those under which yesterday's experiment was made.

The consciousness that one's bones were in process of leaving their imprint on the ground on which the foot rested was doubtless responsible for a feeling of looseness in the toe joints, but whether the result of imagination or of actual experience the feeling was certainly there. A mental comparison in the feelings of the foot under the X ray and the other held equally rigid on the table alongside, only served to emphasize and accentuate the feeling that the bones and muscles in the fore part of the subject's foot were spread out and loose as compared to the other.

But more distinct than the feeling of loose-jointedness was a sensation which began to make its appearance when the attendant, looking at his watch, informed the reporter that "three-quarters of an hour" were up. A cool, soothing feeling, similar to that which follows the quick evaporation of cologne upon the skin, made itself distinctly perceptible from the lower part of the instep to the extremity of the toes. This, at least, was no result of imagination.

A RASCAL.

Love went a-woeing one day, went he,
Galloping over the mountain and lea,
Down by the gloom of the shady dell,
Where the dear gushing waters dance over the fell;
Over the harvest and over the mead,
Recklessly, ruthlessly, who should he heed?
Maidens of beauty, maidens of grace,
Maidens with rich charms of form and of face,
Maidens with pouting lips saucy and bold,
Maidens with chattering tinglets of gold;
Maidens with dainty feet, tripping along—
Maidens with soul thrilling cadences of song,
Greeted Love's vision, and caused him to stand,
Classing his arrow and bow in his hand.
"Well-a-day! Here's a sweet trickle!" he cried,
"From a cordon of angels to choose me a bride.
To settle the tiling," cried this imp of great gall,
"I'll make no selection, but just take them all!"
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"This is an awful big bill for Turkish baths. Why do you go there so often?"

"Where else can a girl go who has nothing to wear?"—Truth.

HILL'S RHEUMATISM AND GOUT CURE; greatest of remedies; one bottle cures you. HILL MEDICINE CO., 36 E. 12th Street, New York, N. Y. Send for circular.

If you want a sure relief for pains in the back, side, chest, or limbs, use an

Allcock's Porous Plaster

BEAR IN MIND—Not one of the host of counterfeits and imitations is as good as the genuine.

KAFFIR CORN

The Wonderful Forage and Fodder Plant.

Enormous Yields Even in Dry Seasons. No Plant Can Equal It For Quantity and Quality of Forage and Grain on Thin Lands.

OUR OFFERS:

FOR $1.35 We will send 3½ pounds of Kaffir Corn (enough for one acre), postpaid to any address in the United States, and the WEEKLY BLADE for one whole year.

FOR $1.10 We will send the TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE one year and 2 pounds of Kaffir Corn, postpaid.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Many who have recently renewed their subscription to the WEEKLY BLADE, will desire to order trial packages of the corn. We suggest that they remit $1.35 for 3 1-2 pounds, or $1.10 for 2 pounds, and we will extend their subscriptions ahead another full year. Or, we will accept from subscribers whose time does not expire for some months, and who do not feel like renewing so far in advance, $1.00 for 3 1-2 pounds, or 75 cents for 2 pounds of the corn a one.

Read the Description of Kaffir Corn:

This is the greatest of all forage and fodder plants for all sections of the country. The plant is low, stocks perfectly erect, the foliage is wide, alternating closely on either side of the stalk.

It does not stool from the root, but branches from the top joints, producing from two to four heads of grain from each stalk.

The average height of growth on good strong land, 5½ to 6 feet; on thin land, 4½ to 5 feet. The stalk is stout, never blown about by winds, never tangled and is always manageable, easily handled. A boy can gather the grain heads.

It has the quality of resisting drought. If the growth is checked for want of moisture, the plant waits for rain, and then at once resumes the processes, and in the most disastrous seasons has not failed so far to make its crop. On very thin and worn lands it yields good paying crops of grain and forage, even in dry seasons in which Corn has utterly failed on the same lands.

The whole stalk, as well as the blades, cures into excellent fodder, and in all stages of its growth is available for green feed, cattle, mules and horses being equally fond of it, and its quality is not surpassed by any other known variety. If cut down to the ground, two or more shoots spring from the root, and the growth is thus maintained until checked by frost.

Kaffir Corn may be planted in the early spring. It bears earlier planting than most fodder plants. It should be put in rows not over three feet apart, even on the best land. Should be massed in the drill on good land, for either green or forage purposes, and also on thin land if forage mainly is desired. No plant can equal it for quality and quantity of grain and forage on thin lands. Sow three to four pounds of seed to the acre.

Address all letters to

THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO.

FANCY VESTS FOR FANCY SWELLS.

Waistcoats of Dazzling Hues Now Popular With Society Leaders.

Time was when long-haired artists wept over the sombreness of masculine attire, and cried out for the lace and velvet and diamond buckles of past centuries, but that was before the present era of scintillating silken underwear, radiant bath robes and dazzling waistcoats.

The extremely loud waistcoats are worn by the younger men, as a rule, but the plain and unpretentious waistcoat of the past has almost gone out of existence. The swell tailors on Fifth avenue make up dozens of the patterned variety in rich materials to one of the old style.

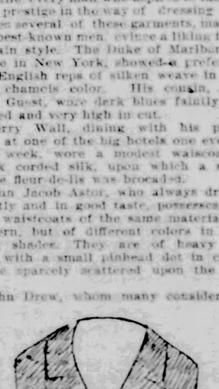
DISTINGUISHED BY BERRY WALL.

While every man who aspires to fashionable prestige in the way of dressing possesses several of these garments, many of the best-known men evince a liking for a certain style. The Duke of Marlborough while in New York, showed a preference for English reps of silken weave in drab and chamois color. His cousin, Hon. Ivor Guest, wore dark blues, finely patterned and very high in cut.

Berry Wall, dining with his pretty wife at one of the big hotels one evening last week, wore a modest waistcoat of black corded silk, upon which a small white fleur-de-lis was brocaded.

John Jacob Astor, who always dresses quietly and in good taste, possesses several waistcoats of the same material and pattern, but of different colors in very dark shades. They are of heavy silk rep, with a small pinhead dot in cream white sparcely scattered upon the surface.

John Drew, whom many consider the best dressed man in New York, does not affect the waistcoat which looks as though it were hand-painted. His wardrobe includes many of the new style garments, but they are subdued in tone and only have a suggested pattern. Many of the leading men who walk upon the Rialto, Union Square and Madison Square sidewalks, have adopted the fad, and the result is a blaze of color that is almost startling.



A SILKEN WEAVE OF CHAMOIS COLOR.

WORN BY JOHN JACOB ASTOR—SILK REP WITH CREAM DOTS.

Each afternoon run the Calumet men a close race in the gorgeous color and elaborate design of their waistcoats. At this season of the year they are principally display

WAITING FOR THE BOYS TO GROW.

Mother, in the cottage yonder,
Why into the future wander,
Wishing for your boys to grow?
Childhood's love is better, purer,
Of them you are ever surer,
Ere into the world they go.

While unto your voice they hearken,
Ne'er a shade they'll cause to darken
Your young motherhood's bright sky.
Take, each hour, its store of pleasures
Sure love's choicest, richest treasures
Round your babies' childhood lie.

Wait not for the days you're planning,
All bright omens ever scanning,
Dreaming day-dreams for your boys.
Others, too, have lost life's sweetness,
Lost their hopes in full completeness,
All by wasting present joys.

Future's oft a strange undoing
Of the castles now we're viewing,
Tow'ring castles in the air.
So, fond mother, cease your yearning,
Taste the sweets you now are spurning,
While your babes are free from care.

OF THE WONDERS

WHICH ARE FILLING THE WHOLE WORLD WITH ASTONISHMENT.

Things Which Are Being Accomplished—Are We Growing Spiritually as Well as Materially?

These closing years of the nineteenth century are full of wonders!

They crowd upon us with such rapidity that hardly has the breathless questioning regarding one discovery, or one movement for progress, died away into certainty of accomplishment, or of possibility, ere another is announced.

People's brains seem to be vitalized into action in the most extraordinary manner. In their laboratories men of science are bringing to light secrets, one by one, that bid fair to change the whole order of every-day living. In their studies men of thought are wrestling with social problems in a way that promises the development of practical plans to bring results, while out in the world are earnest men and women applying humanitarian principles upon lines in harmony with the belief in a universal brotherhood.

Just now the papers are full of the new photographing process by which the innermost secrets of a human being's physical condition may be disclosed, and many other things done that are almost beyond belief. This possibility of having one's bones brought to view by a snap shot from an instrument which has no regard for clothes or flesh, gives a sort of uncanny feeling because of its strangeness, but it is something which the great public is accepting because it must. It is only another proof of the fact that there are many things "twixt heaven and earth not dreamt of in our philosophy" simply because our physical senses have never yet cognized them. It also proves the folly of a stubborn disbelief that anything exists which cannot be seen, heard, touched, tasted or smelled, or that there are unseen forces and undemonstrated qualities in Nature of which the world as yet has little or no knowledge.

Another thing with which electricians are experimenting is the sending of sounds along a ray of sunlight without the aid of an electric wire. In a recent number of the Progress of the World is given a short account of what Dr. Bell of telephone fame has accomplished in this direction.

Dr. Bell showed the writer of the article a piece of board a half-inch in thickness and eight inches square, out of the center of which extended a speaking tube, which, apparently, rested against a thin disc of bright metal sunk into the opposite side. This disc was like a silver mirror, and was about as large around as the bottom of a tumbler. Dr. Bell said this was the perfected instrument by which he could project his voice from one point to another through the medium of a sunbeam. "We have spoken by this means," he declared, "to and from points 200 yards apart, and there seems to be no reason to doubt that speech may be sent along a beam of light for great distances." He thinks further discoveries may be made which will render such an invention commercially practicable.

Think of a thing like this, so wonderful even in its small beginnings, and who shall say what is possible and what impossible in the future!

Then, too, there are the experiments in photographing thought — experiments which have as yet only gone far enough to show that it may be done successfully. This will prove, what has always been declared in Theosophical writings, that thoughts have substance, and if projected with sufficient force and persistency, may be made to take objective shape upon the physical plane. The future experiments of these scientists in this direction will be watched with interest.

New substances are being discovered, as for instance, argon, a constituent of the air not hitherto known. Only a year ago an account of it was given at a meeting of the Royal society in England, and in the search to discover whether it was a simple element or a compound, another substance was brought to the knowledge of Professor Ramsay. This is called helium, and is the second lightest substance known, being only twice as heavy as hydrogen. As yet they have been unable to reduce it to a liquid, nor can they make it combine with any other body.

And so we might go on indefinitely, for on all sides, in all directions are new discoveries, new inventions, things which render us almost breathless with astonishment that they can be, and not only that, but because of the world of possibilities of which they give us a glimpse. It is not certain that all which comes to light will be of benefit to this day and generation. Much may be only a promise for the future. Yet even if that be so, there is enough to make evident that there is no limit to progress; that the field of investigation is boundless, and that the powers of man may be unfolded to divinity.

All this being true, the question comes of whether, in reality, the development of the moral and spiritual sides of our nature is keeping pace with the intellectual. The first thought about every new invention or discovery is, not of the benefit it is to be to humanity as a whole, but rather of the amount of money which may be made by those who control its use. It is not the light which it throws upon man's possibilities in this life or another, or that it may help to make living for everybody more comfortable, but "of the millions there is in it" for the few and of the best way to get hold of these millions. Looked at from this side and seeing that all of the progress in this line does not seem to diminish the great sum of human wretchedness and suffering, and we feel inclined to feel only discouragement, and to be dismayed at what the future may have in store.

Yet we need not. There are great reformatory movements started that are daily gathering strength—movements which have for their object the betterment of humanity—which are founded upon a sense of what human brotherhood really means, and these touch not alone the material side of man's nature, but the spiritual as well. They do not mean charity, but they do mean character-building. Their aim is to show man the possibilities which are enfolded in the future for him; that no matter what his present condition is, his hope lies in himself, in his own efforts in the development of his own higher nature.

And when these great movements, looking toward the teachings of the Christ put into practical every-day living, have done their work, humanity will have taken a step forward upon the moral and spiritual plane, thus keeping pace with the advancement upon the intellectual side of life.

The question then comes as to what we are doing individually to help in this march onward. We do not need to be familiar with the secrets of the laboratory to do this. It is not necessary to possess power or fame; to be rich in this world's goods; to be mentally gifted beyond our fellows. It does need a willingness to serve others always and everywhere; a spirit of helpfulness towards all with whom we come in contact; an understanding of the unity of all life which makes us responsible for the improving of every opportunity however trifling it may seem, to strengthen those weaker than ourselves in the right way of living.

And there is not one of us, no matter how poor and obscure he may be, to whom these opportunities do not come daily. They are the angels in our pathway, though we may know them not. What of work that we can do, though seeming so little, may be just what will give the impetus to the great movement in which we do not dream we are taking a part. The homely duty nearest at hand well done will, perhaps, give strength for the greater duty that is in waiting. EMILY S. BOUTON.

Mrs. E. S. L. Thompson, Muncie, Ind., who is an old friend of the Household, giving much valuable information in painting, etc., for the home worker, has just issued a new pamphlet telling about all sorts of things, which the Cozy Corner would find very useful for fancy work. If any of you will send her a two-cent stamp, she will mail you a circular giving a synopsis of the contents, and then you will know whether you want it or not.

The Day's Jewels.

The amethyst of the morning
Gleams through the turquoise air,
And the radiant gold of the sunlight
Forms a setting, rich and rare;
At noon the turquoise deepens
And turns a sapphire blue,
While the sunset, the dawn and the noontide
Burn red with the ruby's hue.
—Mary Louise Huntley.

AN IDEA OR TWO

To Work Out While the February Thaws Keep You Within Doors.

For Lingerie.

A pretty receptacle for soiled handkerchiefs, collars, cuffs, laces, etc., can be made in this way: Cut 8 pieces of card board 4 ins. wide and 7 ins. long, pointing them at one end. Cover 4 of these with plain black velvet ornamented with a spray of forget-me-nots, painted or embroidered upon it. Line these pieces with blue silesia and join them, alternating a

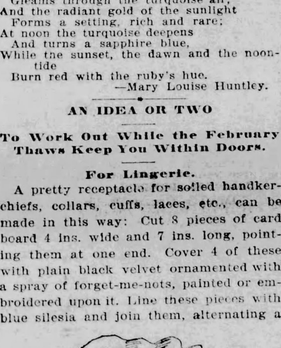
plain and embroidered piece. Cut an octagon-shaped piece of cardboard for the bottom, cover it on both sides with the silesia, and sew firmly into position. For the upper part of the bag take a piece of silk 33 ins. long, and 16 ins. wide; line with stiffening, join the ends in a half-inch seam, turn down a two-inch hem at one side, with a shirr for the drawstring, and sew the bag to the box, just below the points. Draw it together with a blue silk cord, and put loops of the cord at the base of each point.

Other colors may be combined with the velvet, but the silk should always harmonize with the natural tints of the flowers used in the embroidery.—Dell Dainty.

Something New for Hairpins.

The requisites for this "mural decoration" are a large Japanese fan, a small Japanese doll, a round hairpin basket, a yard of bright ribbon and a small piece of cardboard; also (unless the doll is ready dressed) some striped and flowered silk for Miss Jappy's costume. This is to be attended to first, and consists of a straight petticoat of striped silk, a full overskirt of the brocade, and an artistic fold of striped silk forming waist, sleeves and belt.

Cut a piece of cardboard wide enough to support the lady's small feet, and proportionately long; cover it with a piece of



silk and fasten to [illegible] just above the stick. Fasten Miss Jap in position with a few strong stitches passing through her clothes and the fan, and anchor the basket in the same way just high enough so that it seems to be held in her hand. Cover the back of the fan with fancy paper (a Japanese napkin will do nicely) and suspend it by the ribbon.

If it is preferred, the basket may be filled with curled hair with a knitted or crocheted cover stitched over it to contain the hairpins; if this is done, it should be arranged of course before the basket is put on the fan.—Uni Que.

Photograph Frame.

Cut the frame to fit the photograph, and from it cut a pattern in tracing paper. Lay the pattern upon a piece of white linen large enough to cut it from, allowing half an inch to turn in on the outer edges. Arrange the lace braid over this paper, putting a tiny piece of bright silk under each leaflet and sewing them down with invisible stitches. Embroider the scroll connecting the leaves with heavy twist, matching the inserted silk in color, remove the tracing paper and press the work on the wrong side. Cut out the center of the linen, and stretch it smoothly over the frame, fastening it with library paste. Cover a second piece of cardboard with the linen to form the back of the frame, and join the two with

over-hand stitches, except across the top, which is left open to admit the photograph. The frame may be suspended by ribbons or furnished at the back with a linen-covered cardboard rest. — Phebe Locket.

What does Lent mean to you, was asked of each individual at an informal neighborhood meeting of friends one day last week, and the answers were characteristic in every instance. "To me," said the busy housewife, "it means a chance to do my spring sewing; to look through closets and put them in order and otherwise prepare for the spring cleaning."

"To me an opportunity of making up all arrears of calls and so beginning the world even, once more in that respect, at least.

"I consider Lent as a time when all the fun and good times we can have must be disguised under the name of sewing—for—charity parties, reading circles or something of that kind. To be sure we manage to slip in a little bit of dancing and card playing, but can not have an out and out good time with dancing or theatre parties, and nearly always there chances to be more things I care for going on in the world at just this time than all of the rest of the year."

"That is true," said the other society girl, "but I look upon Lent as a regular blessing, inasmuch as it gives me an opportunity of resting after the winter galeties so that I am ready for my summer pleasures, and then there is always some church service to attend if you really must go somewhere, and on the whole I think I really do like to go to church during Lent, one sees people there whom they never meet elsewhere," etc.

This is a correct report of the conversation, and it was continued in the same strain by other ladies who were present. All were what are usually termed Christian people, and not one of them gave testimony that the Lenten season meant to her anything more than a time when freedom from the claims of society would give her breathing time to prepare for a renewal of those claims after Easter. Possibly each one felt more than they cared to express in company of others, for there are many among us who have not the moral courage to speak as they feel on spiritual subjects and cover with light words, some very serious thoughts and beliefs.

But the observance of Lent is good for us all, even if it does no more for us than to allow us to rest our bodies. No matter about the "church" in which we believe, it is good for us to set apart a time once, at least, during the year for self-examination; to see wherein we have failed or come short in making the best of the talent God has given to each of us to use for His glory, and to start again on the upward track. As George Herbert says:

"It's true we cannot reach Christ's forthcoming day;
Yet to go part of that religious way
Is better than to rest;
We cannot reach our Saviour's purity;
Yet we are bid 'Be holy even as He.'
In both let's do our best."

And this devout man tells us also that—

"Who goeth in the way that Christ has gone,
Is much more sure to meet Him, than one
That travelleth byways;"

therefore do not let us, who know the way, mistake the meaning of Lent and only look upon it as a time to fast from flesh and feast on fish; a time to devote to preparation for future social pleasures, but a time for true preparation for leading better lives—in "taking such repast as may our faults control."

Each week we have the pleasure of welcoming to our Cozy Corner new friends; this week Mayrene has some ideas to present on the subject of Cabbages and Pansies, with an application that we all will appreciate.

Now is the time of year to sow seeds for early cabbage and pansies. Sow them in the house, of course, in boxes, and later transplant into larger boxes or pans. Then when the warm days come set them out in the sun, and take in at night. Do not keep them too warm after they come up. Any one who can raise cabbage can raise pansies, as one plant is as hardy as the other. Now is also a good time to sow chrysanthemum seed. "We poor folks" can afford pansies and cabbage if we cannot afford a great many other things.

Yes, indeed, and there are a great many things we can afford.

I know a little woman, who, for a few cents learned how to make flowers for her own hats, and now as regularly as the seasons come she sails forth in a pretty hat and no one is the wiser as to how she affords it.

Some may say: "I cannot spare enough money for a journal or magazine." Just look around and see! The little boy may be fond of pictures, make him a book of old muslin and paste in pretty cards and pictures of any sort. Your little girl may love music; she sings beautifully. You cannot possibly afford to buy a piano. Can you not in some way save enough money to purchase a guitar? Then the lessons; haven't you a neighbor who would exchange guitar lessons for some of your accomplishments? Some one may want new curtains and new shams for her bed-room; make the curtains of cheese-cloth and ruffle them. Buy bleached muslin for the shams; make with a wide hem and outline in some pretty design with linen. I saw some pretty ones on which were marine scrolls. Pin some pretty flowers, made of paper, on your curtains or hang them over your mirror. "Oh, there are so many things we might do if we had the time," says one. "Man's work's from sun to sun," etc., and why can't we steal a few hours for pretty things after the sun goes down and the baby is asleep?

Mrs. Laura L. is another who comes for the first time with a greeting for us, but her letter proves that it is not her first visit with us—in spirit.

"If you sit down at set of sun
And count the things that you have done,
And counting, find
One self-denying act or word, [illegible]
That eased the heart of him who heard;
One smile most kind,
That fell like sunshine where it went,
Then you may count that day well spent."

These beautiful lines are worth repeating. Fully six months ago I cut them from The Blade and tacked them in my pantry. Many times as I passed in and out while at my daily work I would stop for a moment to read, and then go on with the work, all the while thinking of doing something good.

Just a little fruit to a sick woman, or cake for a crippled man, or nice brown bread for a sick boy, or flowers for the sick have brought smiles to the sad faces. Who of our Cozy Corner could not do this much, and even more? The Blade is our favorite paper, for we learn so many good things from its pages. If you will allow, I will send some well-tried cake recipes. I shall enjoy reading the Cozy Corner's definitions of home.

And here is another little thought that Mrs. Laura can place by the side of the above quotation:

"Sum up at night what thou has done that
And in the morning what thou hast to do."

and if one is truly conscientious this way will enable them to keep a pretty correct account of their growth in all good things.

Moree comes from the Keystone state with some suggestions for Arline, which, though too late for a valentine party, will be just as acceptable for any evening entertainment.

I am a young married woman and my husband takes The Blade. We like it very much. I have derived much benefit from the Cozy Corner and would like to enter it as a member. I don't have to ask my husband every time I want money to use, he has confidence in me that I will be economical and when I have spent what I have. I ask for more and I get it, if he has it.

I would say to Arline if she would have her company write verses it is quite amusing. I have some one read them. Prepare a paper and pencil, have the first one write a line and fold the paper over to the next line, and pass it to the next person telling him the last word; have this one write a sentence to rhyme with it, then fold, hand to the next person and repeat as before until all have written. You will have some poetry that will please a valentine party or any other party.

Mattie Cory has her opinions on the suffrage question and she fears not to give utterance to them. And why should she, when they are correct?

The Golden Rule and Christ's teachings seem to be a losing card in the politics of to-day; selfishness, deceit and cunning win the game. There are men possessing both moral and intellectual development, men who are gifted to govern a nation, but they are not "in it" and how can people help themselves as long as politics is run by machinery in the hands of the few? I sometimes think the commandments should be revised to suit present conditions, boiled down and seasoned to taste. I think they would then read: "Now, may do these things, but be very careful to evade the law so you will not be found out. I don't think the commandments are appreciated by any one unless they "feel them in their bones," but I'm a woman, and my opinions don't count for much. I suppose if I ever evolute into a man I shall know something. I suppose I will know enough then to be bad and dirty, morally, and help sustain that great institution the saloon. Then I suppose I shall know enough to govern myself.

I should think women who consider themselves inferior to men would emigrate to some country where the women are harnessed up and compelled to do the work of the horse, and to do all other drudgery, that such treatment would be compatible with their feelings of inferiority. Let me tell Merry Mae and others that I learned from observation while in Colorado that the women who were the most vigorously opposed to suffrage were the ones who, after it had been granted in that state, and election time drew near, were the most arrogant and silly partisans; talked and acted for all the world just like the men, and were the first ones at the polls to vote. As for myself, I am not anxious to vote, but I believe in woman suffrage because it is right, just, and would make one more step gained by civilization.

The time for receiving from The Blade readers their definition of what home means to them having expired, the answers that have been received to this date will be placed in the hands of the committee, who will give at an early date their decision as to whom the prize should be awarded. No matter who is successful in this respect, the letters prove that there are many homes conducted upon the best plans for giving happiness to the inmates, and also prove that there are many bright and thoughtful women who are at the heads of these homes, whose expressions on this subject not only do them much credit, but will help others who read them. And the editor of the Cozy Corner is very much gratified by the interest shown by the large number of letters sent in response to her question.

"A handful of good life is better than a bushel of learning."

An Editor's Wife would like the words of the poem "Always room at the top," and the name of the author.

Mrs. C. suffers much from a stomach and bowel trouble called gastritis, and would be very grateful to any one who would tell her the cause of the disease and a remedy for it.

Better go to a good physician.—Ed.

Minnie asks that some Blade reader will tell her of some way in which she can use the pine needles so abundant in her Florida home for making fancy work, articles.

H. will find Baxter's "Saint's Rest" at any book store or, if they do not have it in stock, any book dealer will send for it if you request them to do so.

Mrs. West need not hesitate a moment about coming into the Cozy Corner, she will meet with a warm reception and we shall be very glad to hear how she made her daughter's birthday "an event to be long and pleasantly remembered by her," it may help some other mother to give an extra pleasure to her daughter.

Minnie recommends Mrs. Mattie M. to invest in a washing machine, believing that it would be a great help to her or any woman who does her own washing.

Mrs. Minnie H. offers to exchange addresses with any of The Blade readers for mutual profit, but as that is not consistent with the rules of this office we are obliged to deny her request.

B. H. Crosby sends the words of "The Dying Musician," and Grace Bragdon the words of "Lilly Dale," both in answer to the inquiry of Emma R.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

Some Very Good Recipes for Lenten Dishes.

If one observes the Lenten season only in respect of their eating, it will help them physically, if not morally, and "half a loaf is better than no bread," we all know. Once a year, at least, we should take pity on our stomach and give it a rest from the constant hard work imposed upon it by our hearty, three meals a day. It will reward us for this abstinence on our part by doing its work more cheerfully during the remainder of the year. If we do not occasionally lighten its work by a diet of plain food, it will have its revenge in the shape of dyspepsia and the thousand troubles that accompany it.

Very few people in this country are aware of the nutritive properties of Lentils which have always been considered a "penitential" dish. They contain more nitrogen than almost any other vegetable and this, with their other good qualities, makes them valuable for food. In soups, stews, etc., they add much to the goodness, and, if rightly cooked, make a very nice dish served in many ways. We give this week some recipes for their use.

Plain Boiled Lentils.

Wash and soak over night. In the morning drain, cover with warm, soft water and boil 1 hr., drain again and cover with fresh, warm water and boil till they will easily mash between the thumb and finger. Drain through a colander. Melt 2 tablespoonfuls of butter in a saucepan, add the lentils; 1 tablespoonful of onion juice, salt and pepper to taste and 2 tablespoonfuls of sweet cream. Stir till very hot and serve.

Lentils With Rice.

Wash 1 cupful of rice and boil in plenty of water, for 30 minutes. Drain through a colander and let it stand by the open oven a few minutes to dry out. Put 2 tablespoonfuls of butter in a frying pan and in it fry 1 onion, cut in thin slices, till it is a golden brown, then add the rice and 1 pt. of boiled lentils. Stir over the fire till very hot, season with salt and pepper and serve.

Barley Soup.

Scald 2 tablespoonfuls of barley, put it into a saucepan with 1 pt. of water; 1 small onion chopped fine, a little parsley, and 3 or 4 beef bones, if you have them. Simmer for 3 hrs. Strain and add to 1 qt. of milk in a double boiler (to prevent burning), Season with salt and pepper. Beat the yolks of 2 eggs and put into the soup tureen. When the soup is hot pour it over the eggs, stirring all the time till ready to serve.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

Meet Together in Spite of the Usual February "Spell of Weather."

Subject for February discussion: "Resolved, that Cordelia, daughter of King Lear, is a specimen of ideal womanhood, and why?"

Judging from the looks of the weather this morning some people might have expected a slim attendance at the session of the M. G. R., but Miss Prudence knew better; her young folks are not "fair weather friends," and a goodly number of old members were present to greet the two applicants for admission. — Stranded Hulk and Lost Lenore.

Among the old members aforesaid were: Brunette, C. M. B., Cecillia, Smart Alec, Sweet Nightingale, Ground Cherry, Buckeye, W. E. A., Eud, N. E. Girl, Sweet Peas and Lorraine.

The Chaperone was not feeling quite as "peart" as usual, owing to the fact that two of her presidents had just sent in their resignations; one of them having "committed matrimony" and being about to remove to Mexico.

Congratulations to Hazel Thornton are now in order, and condolences to the Chaperone who hereby loses one of her "best girls."

The W. Va. president finds it necessary to resign her office also, but will receive communications on the current subject until her successor is appointed.

There is a little misunderstanding on the part of some of the members concerning the Christmas presents so liberally bestowed at the recent entertainment. They were purely imaginery and existed only on paper as did the "Tour," the "Masquerade," etc.

C. M. B. sends Smith an answer to her question similar to that already sent by other members.

J. Bron:—I have not your name on the M. G. R. list, so could not have sent you the address required. I will forward the letter, leaving it to the lady to reply or not as she thinks best.

Household Pet:—Your letter covered both sides of the paper so could not be used. Correct mistake and come again.

Sweet Peas:—The new subject for discussion was given in the last two issues of The Blade, and heads the column.

Lost Lenore, Ind.:—Thanks Phrenologist for his assistance, but assures him that it was quite unnecessary since the "peevish set" have always been held in the highest regard by the men, that their influence is able to raise, and bring forth from the mud and mire of vice. She concludes by saying: "Home is the heart of the world, and woman can make a happy home out of a hovel."

Sweet Peas, Pa., thinks Lenore's letters are simply grand and entertaining, and promises to write again when a new subject is given.

Sweet Nightingale, Ind., agrees with Blue Bell that a lady should never use slang at home or abroad, and that Peach Blossom is right in asserting that some of the nicest people in the world are old maids. She has corresponded with one of the M. G. R. boys, and assures Lillie that she has found it very pleasant.

Ground Cherry, Ind., bubbles over into "poetry" thus: "The Blade is a dandy, and all things show it; once I thought so, but now I know it."

Cecillia, Mich.:—Tell Hazel Thornton that I have a little girl named for her, and she is just the best child you could wish to see."

The rest of Cecillia's communication seeming more appropriate for the Cozy Corner than for the M. G. R. was turned over to the C. C. editor.

Buckeye, O.:—"I will just step in a moment to acknowledge the receipt of my presents. I thank Lois very much for the desk on which I am now writing, I suppose Thistle thought I had been 'talking through my hat' so much that it must be worn out, and I am very thankful to her for the new one; I agree with Frankie on the Venezuelin question in part; I think the United States should help a weaker sister; still, if she did, might it not give the other South American countries reason to think that they could do as they liked, and rely on us for protection? I agree with Miss Prudence in regard to Shamrock's story about foxes."

Lorraine, Ill.: "One Monday afternoon our teacher took fifteen of us to visit Devil's Prop, a freak of nature, near my home, which tourists come many miles to see. It took us an hour to reach the place, as we were obliged to go very slowly. Just before we arrived there, we had to pass around a pool of water, fifteen feet deep; the path was not more than eight inches wide, and in some places we had to cling to the trees to keep from falling into the pool.

"The Prop is a big rock, supported by another rock which stands perpendicularly; south of this, on a rocky shelf, is the Devil's Coffin; southeast of that, the Devil's Grave, and east of that a fox den. After looking at all these, we returned by the same way we came, loaded with ferns and mosses, and reached the school house tired but happy."

New England Girl, Mass.: "I thank all the M. G. Rs. who so kindly remembered me at Christmas. Wilford, I am delighted with my dolly, and have named it after you. What kind fairy told Invalid how disappointed I was last summer when I found I could not have a bicycle, and hinted to Miss Prudence, Topsy, Schoolmistress and Terence my fondness for books, flowers and chocolate caramels? Did the same fairy tell Lilly my favorite color, and inform Thistle that my handkerchief box was too small for my supply of handkerchiefs? M. G. Rs. of New England, let us petition Miss Prudence for a New England president as soon as there are ten of us."

Brunette, Tenn.: "There is a very interesting place near my home called the Cedar Pond, taking its name, I suppose, from the cedar thicket surrounding it. The pond is inclosed by a great circular depression with trees and rocks down to the water's edge. There is but one path leading to it, the sides of the basin are so rocky and steep. The pond is 100 or more feet below the level of the surrounding country, and its depth is unknown. There is a perceptible movement of the water from south to north, where it seems to flow out under a V-shaped rock."

W. E. A.: "I agree with Sir Toby on the woman's rights question; but are people trying to make this century go down to posterity as the 'woman century?' We all believe in progression and in keeping apace with the world, but is there more difference between women and the opposite sex to-day than there was years ago? Have not the men changed? are they not continually changing, just as much and as rapidly as women? If the 'coming woman' is to make the world better, she can not come too soon; let her come on a bicycle, in bloomers, in any style she pleases, so that she never forgets that she is a woman. I can see her, a good, Christian woman, making the world brighter, those around her better, helping the poor and needy, and going down into the gutter to lift up the fallen. There are many such women in the world now, but there is room and need for many more.

Now, boys do each one of you see to it, that there is at least one man fit to associate with this new woman when she comes. She will want a friend, lover and husband, just the same as any other woman, and I hope that she may find one in every way worthy of her, when she needs him and not have to wait until she can reform one, for she will have enough to do without that difficult task."

Bud, W. Va.: "I am glad that Miss Prudence has tabooed some of the old subjects and introduced a new one, Music, for my topic to-day. I am a great lover this fine art, and think it one of the most precious influences for good that can be thrown around youth. We generally find, where children are nurtured in a musical atmosphere, they naturally become musical, and of a more refined nature than those who are reared in homes where the heaven-given art has been neglected. I think every one would appreciate and love music more if they would just think from whence it came, and who sent it into the world to comfort us in our trouble. It softens the hard heart, cheers the soul and lifts our minds to God.

The success achieved by most of the noted preachers of the day, in saving souls is largely attributable to good music, rendered by first-class singers. It has a drawing influence; a tendency to attract some persons to the house of worship that nothing else would have, and thereby gives the preacher a chance to tell them of sin and its fruits. I am not done yet, but Miss Prudence says her waste basket is not quite full at present!"

Another poet has appeared in our midst "after" some of the "old masters." Miss Prudence is not certain which one of them, although the "rhythm" is very familiar.

Stranded Hulk, Neb. "Kind M. G. R. folks:

Can't yer find some little place to stow
A kid what's tired of bein' in the snow?
I'm kind o' cold and frozen-like out there,
Sure you could find a place not anywhere?
"Well, it don't mind, I'm used ter it, yer know,
'Spect I wouldn't feel to home, 'cept I was in the snow.
Yer ain't got no bite fer me ter eat?
No? Well, I'll go back, then, in the street;
'Spect I'll find a corner somewhere the snow don't blow.
And as fer bein' hungry, that don't hurt a mite,
I'll just draw up my waist-band good and tight.
Seems to me it's kinder funny, though,
That there's a place for every one ter go
'Ceptin'—what's that yer say, that I can stay?
Well, that's the oddest thing I ever see,
That any one could find a place to stow a hulk like me."

All communications for this department should be addressed to The Blade, Toledo, O. "M. G. R."

CARE OF THE FACE.

It Needs Thorough Cleansing Every Day.

Dust will settle in the pores of the skin of the face sooner than any other part of the body, because the secretions are more oily. Nothing but a detergent and water and friction will take this dust away. Consider what the condition of your hands would be if you never used soap on them, and you must, it seems to me, come to the sensible conclusion that the face also can be kept clean only by the aid of soap and water and friction enough to remove the waste or dead skin and to dislodge the dust and foreign matter which collect every day.

If you wish to have a clean, wholes me skin proceed as follows:

Select a good, pure soap, and recollect that you can not get such a soap composed of vegetable oils for less than 25 cents a cake. A opaque soap is better than a transparent one, as the latter is made transparent by an alcoholic process which renders it very drying to the skin. Don't economize on your toilet soap. Our small economics are not only absurd but irrational to the last degree. I believe we each have a pet meanness, but the tendency to economize on soap seems almost to be national, and the average woman will spend half dimes and dollars freely on soda water and matinee tickets but will wail over the necessity of paying 25 cents a cake for soap, and too frequently make an average on her expenditures by purchasing a 5-cent cake composed of fat and alkali and foisted upon the unwary under some high-sounding name.

If you wish to wonderfully improve a bad skin and indefinitely preserve a good one, scrub your face every night before retiring.

Immerse the brush in a bowl of water as hot as you can bear it upon your face; rub the soap back and forth upon the brush until you have a good lather; scrub your face thoroughly, particularly about the nose and around the eyes and chin, places where blackheads are apt to come. Take a peep at the water, and you will see there was need for the brush. Next rinse with clean warm water, and then again with cooler, so as to get every particle of soap out of the pores of the skin, for it is just as irritating to clog the pores with soap as with dust. The face is not clean unless it is kept free from foreign matter of every kind. After thoroughly rinsing, dry with a soft towel. If the scrubbing brush produces a little irritation of the skin, as sometimes happens when it is first used, apply a little cold cream or some equally soothing emollient.

In the morning wash the face again in warm water. If you have used a cream or ointment upon it the night before, it should be carefully washed out of the skin and soap will again be necessary. Otherwise bathe only in warm water, followed by cold, as the tonic effect of cold water is wonderful in its aid to beauty.—Evening Wisconsin.

DIMITY DRESSES.

They Are Very Dainty, Becoming, Yet Simple.

Some of the daintiest yet most unpretending wash dresses will be of dimity, sheer and fine, with the corded lines extremely small. The colored grounds are newest, yet there are many with white surfaces so nearly covered with clusters of small yellow, rose or green figures, leaves, or flowers, that they produce a colored effect, and these are said to wash particularly well. By way of trimming they have insertions of Valenciennes lace let in—not merely laid on—in large squares on the entire waist and sleeves, and forming an effective row above the hem of the skirt. Some of these insertions are an inch and a half wide. They are also formed into open-looped bows, and applications of ribbons are used in the same way. A large bow of lace is let in at each side of the top of the front of the waist, and a single one in the back. These have very simply cut belted waists, their only seams under the arms, unless a large figure requires an under-arm form, and they are occasionally worn over half-low linings, and the waist is cut down in a very small square about the throat. This is for extremely hot places and for very young women and girls yet in their teens.

Large collarettes of satin or of taffeta of the color prevailing in the dimity are worn with such waists. They are completed by a ruffle in which the lace is inserted. Simpler gowns, high about the neck, are completed by a draped stock of ribbon with a very large bow at the back and a belt to correspond.

The full skirt is worn over an entirely separate skirt of the dimity, gored closely, and trimmed with a flounce of the same edged with Valenciennes lace that has a scalloped edge. The outside skirt is trimmed down either side with ribbon, starting at the belt and ending at the knee in a bow with flat open loops and waving ends.

Though color prevails in the dimity frocks, one of the most charming yet made is of white and black, with a large collarette of clear green taffeta ribbon finely tucked in clusters to alternate with insertions of Valenciennes lace that has a scalloped edge. The outside skirt is trimmed down either side with ribbon, started by a deep ruffle of the ribbon, in which Valenciennes an inch and a half wide is inserted. Narrower insertions of Valenciennes are let in to form plaids on the entire waist and sleeves. The waist has no fullness at the top, but is gathered into a belt. The lace crossbars are about four inches square. The neck has no high collar, and is cut down slightly square in front where the taffeta collarette rolls over. Bishop sleeves are also crossbarred with narrow insertions. The skirt has a row of these lace plaids inserted above a very deep hem. It is made quite wide at the foot, and is not closely gored at the top, even at the front and sides, being shirred in two or three rows below the belt. It is worn over a separate skirt of the same dimity, quite closely gored, and trimmed with a flounce of the same edged with scalloped Valenciennes lace.—Harper's Bazar.

FASHION'S FANCIES.

Pale primrose-yellow gloves are very fashionably worn with evening toilets. The rival to these gloves is a long velvety mousquetaire glove in cream white. Other Suede gloves are worn that repeat in tint the shade of the trimmings of the gown. Where pink satin or chiffon is used with bouquet de corsage of bluish roses, the gloves are of cameo-tinted kid. Mauve gloves stitched with white are en suite with toilets of violet taffeta and chiffon trimmed with white lace; green gloves of palest hues are fashionable, but green toilets look best with gloves of faintest maize-colored undressed kid.

The silver and gold chatelaine belts, with their pretty attachments, will again be in fashion, also the chatelaine bag suspended from the belt or girdle, worn with a round-waisted or basque bodice. Some of the new varieties come securely fastened to the belts they match; others are secured by a metal clasp. All sorts of materials are used for these revived accessories—English snake-skin, lizard-skin, undressed kid in white, pearl color, tan or old rose. The kid is used for the finer bags, with purses and card-cases to match, and gold, silver and decorated aluminum ornaments, or chased designs of fine filagree patterns finish these useful and beautiful accessories.

There is a rage for braided costumes abroad, and it has reached America. New cashmere braids are used that are wider than soutache. They are used to decorate gowns, capes and jackets. Skirts are braided in a vine, arabesque or Greek key border around the hem, but newer patterns are carried up the seams of the skirt and often appear on the side breadths in the back below the hips, and on the breadths each side of the front, forming elaborate panel effects.—New York Evening Post.

Put It Off Until To-Morrow.

A man who writes us a very pleasant letter on the subject of quarrels in such a thoroughly delightful and instructive fashion that we can do nothing but copy his letter for the benefit of those couples who think it is not well to put off until to-morrow what they can do to-day, even though the something to be done be a fierce clashing of wills, a wordy combat that leaves scars and wounds in its wake.

Says this man: "My wife is one of the sweetest little women in the whole world, and I am not considered peculiarly cranky, but sometimes differences would arise, beginning with the most trivial things, which, however, being daily nursed, became of monumental proportions and often threatened the peace of the family. Of course, I was commonly the one to blame, in fact as I look back on it now, I am sure I was always to blame, for I should have had the wisdom to give way on the non-essentials, and by a little restraint and gentle talk win my little wife over to my way of thinking. But instead of that I feared I should sacrifice my dignity (?) as head of the family by yielding. So, sometimes I went to business without my good-bye kiss, and two people were miserable all day.

"But my little wife had an inspiration (most women have when things come to the breaking point), and the next time our arguments were drifting into the danger line she turned aside the collision by this womanly suggestion: 'Howard, dear, let's quarrel to-morrow!' This was a proposal for an armistice. What husband could refuse? 'All right,' I said 'we will put it off till to-morrow, and we laughed and talked of other things. But to-morrow did not come. Indeed, to-morrow never comes. It is always a day ahead; and if we can only keep our quarrels till then, there will be no more heartbroken little wives at home and fewer 'blue' husbands at the store or office. 'Let's quarrel to-morrow.'" — Philadelphia Times.

Novels Have Their Day.

An interesting point in connection with the reading of fiction is the call for the old and standard works in comparison with the demand for the new novels. The demand for them is steady, while out of 1,000 new novels which make more or less stir when first published, if twenty-five survive the first year, it is a pretty good indication that they will live, and one of the great problems the librarian has to deal with is to know just how many copies to buy of a new work which is on the high tide of popularity, often while the demand lasts much complaint is heard because the library has only a limited number of copies and not nearly enough to supply the demand. "The Prince of India" enjoyed an immense popularity for a time, but it was not expected to survive and so only six copies were purchased which did not at the time begin to satisfy the call, now cards have to be posted up in sight stating that the work is "in" and even that hardly serves to get them taken out. Robert Elsmere shared the same fate, and now there repose peacefully on the shelves, twelve copies. Among the writers of to-day, however, who retain their popularity are Stevenson, Conan Doyle, Stanley Weyman, S. R. Crockett and Ian MacLaren.—Evening Wisconsin.

"PEEK-A-BOO."

Baby hides behind the door,
Peeps out, oh, so cunning!
And I hear, in baby lore,
"Mamm, I'se ist funning."
And if I turn my head away,
Out he slips, to seek
Another place to hide and play
"Peek-a-Boo, O peek."

"Peek-a-boo," baby dear,
Come, where are you hiding?"
Peek-a-boo, softly hear,
Little feet are gliding.

And at dusk, in fire-light dim,
Two black eyes I meet,
I must sing, so low to him,
"Peek-a-boo, My sweet,
If I had no baby dear,
O, what would I do?"
As he sees the falling tear:
"Mamma, Peek-a-boo."

"

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

53TH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

Washington, Feb. 18.—In the Senate, the report of the committee on privileges and elections was received, with a resolution appended that Henry A. Dupont is entitled to the Senatorial seat from Del. ware. The resolution for the investigation of the bond sales under the Cleveland administration was discussed without action. The Military Academy appropriation bill was passed, and also the Pensions appropriation bill.

The House passed the bill authorizing the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis railroad to extend its line into the Indian territory; also the bill rendering it mandatory on the secretary of agriculture to purchase and distribute seeds, etc.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The crusaders in the cause of temperance reform and of Sunday rest laws were severely criticised in the Senate to-day by Mr. Hill, of New York, in connection with a sheaf of petitions in printed form, emanating from the W. C. T. U., against the sale of beer to immigrants landing on Ellis Island, in New York harbor, and to the men stationed on Bedloe's Island, and in connection with other petitions for a Sunday rest law in the District of Columbia. Mr. Hill could not see how a glass of beer could be of great injury to the temperance cause, or have any serious effect on the health and lives of the immigrants. He thought, on the contrary, that it was a very welcome thing. As to the Sunday rest law for the District of Columbia, he did not see what interest people in New York could have in it, unless to regulate the conduct of their Senators and Representatives.

A resolution for the investigation as to the issue of bonds in 1894, 1895 and 1896 was offered by Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, and went over until to-morrow. Notice was given by Mr. Morgan (Dem., Ala.) that he would bring up the Cuban resolution to-morrow.

The diplomatic and consular appropriation bill was presented and the conference report on the urgent deficiency bill was agreed to. The remainder of the day's session was spent in the passage of private pension bills.

The House, in the five hours' session, disposed of two important measures. The first was the bill under consideration yesterday to extend for ten years the time within which the government may institute suits to annul land grants illegally or erroneously secured. Mr. Hepburn's amendment to restrict the law officers to cases of fraud was rejected, as was also the amendment proposed by the committee on public lands to reopen Mexican and Spanish grants. An amendment proposed by Mr. Loud (Rep., Cal.) was agreed to restricting the operations of the law to patents issued under railroad and wagon road grants. A substitute was offered by Mr. McRae (Dem., Ark.) to repeal all legislation on the subject and was voted down, 149 to 72, which was a test vote on the bill.

The army appropriation bill was passed without much discussion, but most of the new legislation proposed by the committee on military affairs went out on points of order. Among the propositions thus rejected was the one to compel the President to appoint paymasters from the line officers of the army alone, shutting out civilians.

The unanimous report of the committee on ways and means against the passage of the bill to regulate the issue of liquor licenses was submitted by Mr. Evans (Rep., Ky.) and ordered printed.

The agreement of the conferees on the urgent deficiency bill was reported and concurred in.

Washington, Feb. 20.—For three hours and a half to-day the Senate was engaged in a debate upon the resolutions for the recognition of the belligerent rights of the Cuban insurgents, and the alternative resolution for the recognition of Cuban independence. The debate was opened by Senator Call (Dem., Fla.), and continued by Mr. Cameron (Rep., Pa.) who offered a substitute for the concurrent resolution in these words, "That the President is hereby requested to instruct the friendly offices of the Spanish government for the recognition of the independence of Cuba." In a written speech, he declared that the question was no longer one of belligerency, but one of independence. He wanted the government to act. The policy which he advocated was, he asserted, the policy of the Republican party and of the American people.

He was followed by Senators Lodge (Rep., Mass.), and Morgan (Dem., Ala.). Mr. Morgan was the author of the concurrent resolution, and reported it from the committee on foreign relations. Each speech, in succession, seemed to outstrip the other in paregoric fervor and in devotion to the Cuban cause, and some of the speeches attracted applause from the galleries. Mr. Morgan was the author of the concurrent resolution, and reported it from the committee on foreign relations. Each speech, in succession, seemed to outstrip the other in paregoric fervor and in devotion to the Cuban cause, and some of the speeches attracted applause from the galleries. Mr. Morgan was not able to finish his speech, but will continue it at the session of Monday next. The Senate adjourning at 5:30 o'clock until Saturday, when president pro tem. (Mr. Frye, Rep., Me.) is to read Washington's farewell address.

The consideration of the Indian appropriation bill, the principal topic before the House to-day, was marked by two incidents of interest, the other of importance.

In the general debate on the measure, Mr. Wilson (Rep. O.) departing from the text before him, made a speech advocating the passage of a protective tariff, bill in the course of which he had from the clerk's desk extracts from the speech of Maj. McKinley at the Marquette club dinner in Chicago, February 12. Efforts by the friends of other presidential candidates to head off the advertisement of the Ohio candidate on the floor of the House were unavailing.

When the committee of the whole reached the paragraph in that bill providing for the pay of the five Indian inspectors, a motion was made to reduce their salaries from $3,000 to $2,500. That had been done in the last two previous bills and the action of the Indian committee in fixing them at the figure named in the statute establishing the office, met objection on both sides of the chamber. The motion was defeated—56 to 93.

The general pension appropriation bill was sent to conference on the disagreeing votes of the two houses, and the Senate amendments to the diplomatic and consular bill were agreed to. This now goes to the President for his signature.

Mr. Willis (Rep., Del.) reported favorably from the committee on agriculture, the Senate joint resolution directing the Secretary of Agriculture to purchase and distribute seeds in 1896, as was done in former years, and asked immediate action. An objection by Mr. Erdman (Dem., Pa.) sent it to the calendar.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The Senate was not in session. In the House the efforts of Messrs. Dingley, Cannon and other Republican leaders were unavailing to reverse the defeat sustained yesterday in the committee of the whole on restoring the salaries of Indian inspectors from $3,000 to $2,500 a year.

When the consideration of the appropriation bill was resumed, Mr. Grow (Rep., Pa.) moved to make the salary $2,000, and against that proposition Mr. Crisp (Dem., Ga.) raised a point of order that it changed existing laws. A debate extending over two hours followed upon this, ending in its defeat. Mr. Grow charged his amendment to make the salary $2,500, but again the committee of the whole sustained the Indian committee and voted against the reduction. The appropriation of $4,000 to meet the expenses of the board of Indian commissioners, which has been in every Indian bill for 26 years, and which the committee omitted from their draft of the bill, was inserted on motion of Mr. McCall (Rep., Mass.), supported by Messrs. Bartlett, Fisher and Quigg, of New York.

Having completed only ten pages of the bill in two days, the committee rose and, on motion of Mr. Dingley (Rep., Me.), it was ordered that when the House adjourn at the close of the evening session for the consideration of private pension bills, it be to meet on Monday next.

In the morning hour, Senate amendments to the Military Academy appropriation bill were agreed to, and the following Senate bills were passed.

To amend Section 5294, R. S., so as to empower the Secretary of the Treasury to remit or mitigate forfeitures under his jurisdiction, as well as fines and penalties; to amend the law regulating the establishment of final proof in timber culture entries.

Washington, Feb. 22.—In the Senate the only thing done was the reading of Washington's Farewell Address by Senator Frye. The House was not in session.

Washington, Feb. 24.—In the Senate Mr. Morgan (Ala.) occupied almost the entire day in a narrative and historical speech on the Cuban resolution, and had not concluded when the Senate adjourned. Mr. Lodge's resolution for an investigation of the recent bond issues came up, and Mr. Peffer offered an amendment for a special committee and more comprehensive inquiry. Mr. Lodge sought to have the amendment laid on the table, but his motion to this effect was defeated, 16 to 24. Final action was not secured as Mr. Hill carried the debate beyond 2 o'clock. The bill pensioning the widow of the late Secretary Gresham at $100 monthly was passed.

The House to-day in committee of the whole, after a very interesting debate by a vote of 92 to 84, decided that none of the appropriations in the Indian appropriation bill for Indian schools should go to sectarian schools. In last year's bill the appropriation was cut down 20 per cent, with the understanding that it should be reduced 20 per cent each year until it ceased, at the end of five years. The committee on Indian affairs pursuing that policy this year recommended this appropriation be again reduced 20 per cent, but Mr. Linton, of Michigan, moved an amendment to the effect that no portion of this appropriation should go to sectarian schools.

e Set for Chicago's Exposition.

Chicago, Feb. 20.—The Chicago and Columbian Exposition, as it has been named, Sha open in Chicago August 1st, 1893, and small run three months. This much was decided upon at to-day's session of Southern oppe States and Chicago business men.

Sold Militiaman Fatally Shot.

Typ Baltimore, Feb. 19.—William H. Jams, and Pennsylvania militiaman who was Wh sent mustered out of camp at Homestead, was ally shot in a quarrel here this morning

"BILL" NYE DEAD.

Famous Humorist Had a Stroke of Apoplexy.

Asheville, N. C., Feb. 20.—The reading public of America will hear with deep regret that Edgar W. Nye, the "Bill" Nye of the world of humor, whose writings have made the world laugh, is seriously ill at his home at Buck Shoals, eight miles south of Asheville.

About two weeks ago Mr. Nye was taken ill, and since that time the trouble has been slowly progressing until now

BILL NYE.

his condition is very serious. He is suffering from a stroke of apoplexy. Misses Winnie and Bessie Nye, his daughters, arrived at Asheville yesterday, and took a train to Arden, the nearest station to the Nye residence. Last night Mr. Nye was much worse, and it was thought he could live but a few hours.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 22.—A special to the News from Asheville, N. C., says that Edgar W. ("Bill") Nye, died at his home, 12 miles east of that place this afternoon. His wife, two sons and two neighbors were present at his bedside when the end peacefully came. Ten days ago he had a stroke of paralysis much more severe than the one at Patterson, N. J., when the cruel story that he was drunk was sent out. His daughters arrived from Washington city where they have been attending school last Wednesday, and have been at his bedside since. No arrangements have been made for the funeral. Mr. Nye came to this section seven or eight years ago in search of health and finally bought a farm where he built a palatial home.

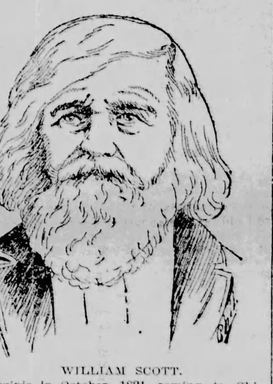
He was born in Shirley, Piscataqua county, Maine, the 25th of August, 1850. He was educated at an academy at River Falls, Wis., removed to Wyoming Territory, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1876. He began early to contribute humorous sketches to the newspapers, using the pen name of "Bill Nye." was connected with various Western journals, and afterwards settled in New York city. He has published "Bill Nye and the Boomerang," (Chicago, 1881); "The Forty Liars" (1883); "Baled Hay" (1884); "Bill Nye's Blossom Rock" (1885), and "Remarks" (1886).

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

William Scott, of Delphos, Reaches the Century Mark.

Delphos, O., Feb. 20.—William Scott celebrated his one hundredth birthday anniversary here yesterday.

He was born February 19, 1796, in Chester county, Pennsylvania, and emigrated to



WILLIAM SCOTT.

Virginia in October, 1821, coming to Ohio in October, 1835. He settled on a farm near here on the day that he was 39 years old, and has resided here since, except for intervals during the last two decades, which he has spent with his children in and around Delphos.

Although physically unable to move about, his mind is as active as ever, and he still takes an interest in the doings of the day. He claims to be the only original Jackson Democrat living, but long since became a Republican and has always taken a decided stand in politics. His life has been a temperate one and his sturdy, stubborn and aggressive will made him a leader among his fellows on all questions. He has persisted that he would not live to see his one hundredth birthday anniversary, and now confesses half reluctantly that he was mistaken. His memory is the most remarkable trait of the old gentleman, and is considered so good that he is often called to decide legal disputes over land. Only a few weeks ago he sat at rest litigation over some land, the title papers to which had been destroyed.

A PARDON FOR MRS. MAYBRICK.

Stated That She Will Be Granted Her Liberty.

New York, Feb. 24.—It was announced by cable that Mrs. Florence Maybrick, who is in prison in England, serving a life sentence for poisoning her husband, is about to be liberated. An official announcement to this effect, it is said, will be made during this week. Ever since the conviction of Mrs. Maybrick, in 1889, great pressure has been brought to bear upon the home secretary to influence him to commute her sentence. She was sentenced to death first, but the decision was reversed, and she was sent to Woking prison for life. Her friends have been unceasing in their efforts to secure her release ever since, and in the—until now—apparently hopeless effort many prominent Americans have been foremost.

Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness, without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health and the system is regular, then laxatives or other remedies are not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative then one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

SEVEN PERISHED.

Fire Visits Affliction Upon a Baltimore Family.

Baltimore, Feb. 24.—Seven people were asphyxiated, one fatally hurt by jumping from a window and five others more or less injured by a fire in the residence of James R. Armiger, a prominent jeweler at 1806 Charles street, yesterday morning.

The house in which the holocaust occurred is one of a row of granite front residences belonging to the A. S. Abell estate on Charles street, just north of Lafayette avenue. It is four stories in height and at the time of the fire was filled with costly furniture and much rare bric-a-brac, plate and unique jewelry of which Mr. Armiger was an enthusiastic collector.

In the house were just thirteen persons. Of these ten were members of the Armiger's household, two were servants, and Horace N. Manuel, a guest visiting the Armiger family for the past two or three days. It was his purpose to have returned to his home in New York Saturday night, but Mr. Armiger prevailed on him to remain until Monday. All of these persons were in their bed rooms on the upper floors, some of them being partially dressed when at 8.15 yesterday morning fire was discovered issuing from a partition in the cellar. It had ignited from an over-heated furnace flue and was first seen by Louis Whiting, the colored man of all work, who was at the time cleaning the front steps. Whiting ran to the adjacent corner and gave the alarm to a policeman and hurried back to the house, entered the front door, closed it behind him and ascended to the second floor where Mr. and Mrs. Armiger had their bed room.

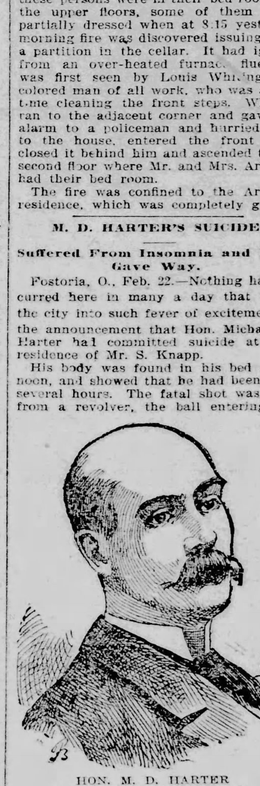
The fire was confined to the Armiger residence, which was completely gutted.

M. D. HARTER'S SUICIDE.

Suffered From Insomnia and Mind Gave Way.

Fostoria, O., Feb. 22.—Nothing has occurred here in many a day that threw the city into such fever of excitement as the announcement that Hon. Michael D. Harter had committed suicide at the residence of Mr. S. Knapp.

His body was found in his bed about noon, and showed that he had been dead several hours. The fatal shot was fired from a revolver, the ball entering the



HON. M. D. HARTER
Committed Suicide in Fostoria.

right temple, penetrating the brain. He was found lying on the bed with the revolver clutched in his left hand. No cause is assigned for the act further than he had been suffering with insomnia for some time past and that his mind gave away.

Yesterday afternoon he complained of having a severe pain in his head, but later in the evening he attended a church supper and seemed to have had an enjoyable time. Returning home he retired at the usual hour and nothing occurred to excite the least suspicion. The members of the Knapp family thought they heard Mr. Harter moving about in his room about 5 o'clock this morning, but heard no report of the revolver. Mr. Harter has been in the city for several days past on business connected with the Isaac Harter Milling Company. His son Robert, who resides in this city, is now visiting with his mother in Philadelphia.

Mr. Harter is largely interested in a number of industries and represented the Fourteenth Ohio district in Congress. But for the past two years has been residing in Philadelphia.

—Cures, absolute, permanent cures have given Hood's Sarsaparilla the largest sales in the world and the first place among medicines.

THE PEARL BRYAN MURDER.

People Flock to the Jail to See the Accused Men.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 24.—When the headless body of Pearl Bryan was discovered near Fort Thomas on February 1 the first feeling was a chill of horror at the revolting devilish ingenuity of the crime. Four days later when the confessed partners in it, Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling, not to mention the lad William, who were arrested, the excitement over this unspeakable atrocity became passionate—indeed, almost furious. As one by one, day by day, the dumb witnesses of this crime, matchless for cold-blooded cruelty, came to light all other passions gave way to that of vengeance.

During the past week, in the absence of new and stirring developments, the public interest in these accused men, Jackson and Walling, has assumed a new phase. That fascination which mystery has for the masses has drawn visitors not by the score and hundreds to the jail, but by thousands every day. Jailer Lew Kushman and his guards were absolutely worn out in letting the people in and out. This became so burdensome that on and after Saturday all visitors will be excluded.

As to the character of these visitors the singular fact is that at least two-thirds of them are women. Of these the greater number of them are blooming young girls with rosy cheeks and bright eyes. Most of the callers have been from Cincinnati and neighboring towns. A highly respectable minority are from Indiana and more distant states.

The hideous monstrosity of the crime of which the two chief prisoners are accused gives them a grim and ghastly distinction that overshadows and obscures the personality of all minor actors in it.

FITZSIMMONS WON.

By His Victory He is Champion of the World.

Langtry, Tex., Feb. 22.—Peter Maher was knocked out by Bob Fitzsimmons yesterday in the first round after one minute and 35 seconds of actual fighting. Fitzsimmons played the same old game he has so often played before, leading on his opponent until he had him where he wanted him and then landed a lightning right hand swing on the jaw and it was over. It was the identical blow that knocked out Jim Hall in New Orleans.

For the first part of the round Maher had the better of it. He led off and forced the fighting. In his eagerness to get at Fitzsimmons he committed a palpable foul during a clinch and was warned by Referee Siler that its repetition would cost him the fight. Maher fought well, but he was no match for his opponent, who proved himself one of the craftiest men that ever stepped into the ring. Fitz is now, by Corbett's action in presenting the championship to Maher, the champion of the world, and after the fight was over he declared through Julian his willingness to defend the championship against any and all comers.

The train arrived about 3:30 central time. The battle ground was a sandy flat upon a big bend in the Rio Grande river on the Mexican side. It was just two miles from the village of Langtry.

ST. PAUL AFTER ALL.

Will Probably Secure the G. A. R. Encampment.

St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 20.—A telegram from Commander-in-Chief Walker, of the G. A. R., yesterday afternoon in answer to a message from the local committee notifying him that the Wisconsin Central, Chicago, Great Western, Minneapolis & St. Louis and Soo railroads had agreed to the one cent rate for the annual encampment, states that he has directed the adjutant-general at Indianapolis to send him an order to New York, and that he would receive it in that city in a few days. As soon as he receives it he will promptly fill it out, and promulgate it to the G. A. R. declaring the encampment shall be held in St. Paul, and fixing the exact dates therefor.

The Progress of Medical Science.

CONSUMPTION.

A SCIENTIFIC discussion of this dread disease, its cause, treatment, and cure, by Dr. Robert Hunter, the father of inhalation and most eminent lung specialist of the day. After a period of research extending over half a century, Dr. Hunter explains his perfected discovery of a specific remedy for consumption, and proves its success not only scientifically, but through the grateful testimonials of his patients. Dr. Hunter was for forty years the sole advocate of the germ theory of consumption, which is now accepted by the medical profession throughout the world as the only correct theory—thus establishing beyond doubt his superior knowledge of this disease. Readers of The Blade can obtain Dr. Hunter's book explaining his treatment without charge, by addressing him at his residence, 117 West Forty-fifth street, New York.

FORAKER'S SPEECH.

Delightful Tribute Paid the Senator-Elect.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 24.—The Scottish Rite Cathedral on Broadway, has been the scene of many brilliant social triumphs, in which distinguished sons of Ohio and other states participated, but no Ohioans, save perhaps, the "Old Roman"—the late Allen G. Thurman—ever was paid a higher tribute than that extended Saturday night to United States Senator-elect Joseph Benson Foraker, who succeeds Calvin S. Brice.

The Foraker banquet was distinguished particularly in that the guests were fellow-townsmen and neighbors of the Senator-elect. They all knew him, and have watched his progress, and it was with pleasure that they paid tribute to him who is to be the co-worker of "Uncle John" Sherman in the United States Senate.

The Senator-elect was deeply impressed with the respect and profound admiration paid him. His voice, when he rose to speak, had a slight tremor—he was filled with deep emotion. This was plainly evident, but as he warmed up to the occasion, his words grew more eloquent, and the fiery utterances which so often have given him national distinction, stirred the guests. Round after round of applause went up from those present. The keynote of his speech was struck when he touched upon American patriotism and the Monroe doctrine.

Mr. Forsker spoke as follows:

"The time has come when there is an emphatic demand for a wise, broad, patriotic, progressive, aggressive American statesmanship. (Tremendous applause and cheers.) We do not like the idea of our being unable to step out at either our front door or our back door on the Atlantic or Pacific side, without seeing the British flag floating from all the islands that meet our view with their guns pointing wheresoever she will. (Great applause and renewed cheers.) When the Sandwich Islands come knocking at the door with a republican form of government and the American flag, I say let them in. (Tremendous applause.) When a civilized country turns civilized war into barbarism, as Spain is doing in Cuba, I say, in the name of this republic and in the name of republican institutions everywhere, as well as in the name of civilization and Christianity, it is our mission to put a stop to it. (Great applause.) And if as a result the stars and stripes would happen to float from that island, it would be no bad acquisition. (Applause.)

"I want to see the Monroe doctrine, recently so much talked about, upheld and enforced against all the world. (Applause.) And I shall stand by the administration that stands for America, be that administration Republican or Democratic. (Cheers.)

"I want to see our merchant marine restored. There was a time when our merchant marine was the pride of every American. It is to-day but a mortification to us all. We once carried 90 per cent of our foreign trade in American bottoms, under the American flag. We now carry less than 13 per cent. We are paying out annually more than $150,000,000 in gold to foreign ships for transportation of freights and passengers. The time has come to remedy that. The way to remedy it is not with subsidies and bounties, but by going back to the first thing practiced by George Washington and the founders of this republic when they applied the principles of protection to the water as well as to the land. (Applause.)

"I want to see the Congress of the United States provide that the 50 per cent or more of imports that come into our country free of duty shall come in free, provided they come in American bottoms and under the American flag. (Applause.) I want to see it provided that the dutiable goods brought in American ships shall be allowed a rebate on that account. (Applause.)

"And when we make these new reciprocity treaties, which we hope to make soon in the future, I want to see incorporated in every one of them a provision that the goods mentioned in the reciprocity treaty shall have the benefits of that, provided they are carried in the ships of the reciprocity country. (Great applause.) When this shall be done, as done it can and should be, there will be no longer an elbowing by Great Britain of the American marine off the waters of the globe. (Applause.)

"Shipbuilding will revive, and once again the flag of the United States will be seen floating in all the channels of trade and commerce. (Cheers.) And then after that will follow easily and naturally what we should have had ere this, an American navy able to protect us, let come what may. (Applause.) When Mr. Cleveland sent to Congress his Venezuelan message it had more good results than one. One of its good results was to impress the American people with our defenseless situation. We should realize that the great wars of the future, if there be any at all with which we are concerned, are far more likely to be on the water than on the land. We should order accordingly. It is a patriotic duty to do it.

"Then, there is another good thing. I do not want to stop to discuss all these things, but I read in the newspapers this morning just what I have been looking for for a long time. I read, as you probably did, that in the city of New York there was yesterday tendered the capital by Europeans to build the Nicaragua canal. Unless the United States of America builds that canal somebody else will build it. (Voices of "That's so.") The commerce of the world demands it.

"People will not any longer be content sailing ships from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast to go ten thousand miles out of the way around the Horn, through tempestuous seas and inclement seasons. Every suggestion of patriotism commands us to do that work. (Applause.) I want to see the United States build it, and own it, and control it, (applause) without any co-partnership with anybody, and without any other nation having any other right with respect to it except only the right to use it for peaceful purposes, on payment of such tolls as we may see fit to levy.

"I rejoice, my fellow-citizens of Cincinnati, that I will have opportunity to participate in the solution of these great questions. It is but little I can do, but in my humble way whatever I can contribute will be most zealously contributed. (Applause.) There are works worthy of the American people. If we but prosecute them to that success which is possible for us, there is in store for the American people a destiny greater and grander than any human language can describe.

"Again I thank you." (Tremendous applause and cheers.)

BALLINGTON BOOTH.

Leader of Salvation Army in America Deposed.

New York, Feb. 22.—The World tomorrow will publish the following:

"Ballington Booth, commander of the Salvation Army in America, has disappeared with his wife, Maud B. Booth. Their home in Montclair, N. J., is closed. They have not been at the army headquarters in this city since Thursday.

"Herbert Booth, commander of the army in Canada, was hastily summoned to New York by Col. Nicol, a staff officer of the army, who came here ostensibly on a mission to investigate the sentiment of rebellion in this country against the transfer of Commander Booth to another sphere of action. He arrived on Thursday and on that day a court of inquiry was held by the three with Ballington Booth before them. In the argument that followed, the commander complained bitterly of the injustice of his father removing him so arbitrarily from a field where he had labored so long, and in which he hoped to finish his life. He made use of terms of insubordination and criticised the General severely, for which he was emphatically censured and dismissed from his high office.

"After receiving notice of dismissal, he and his wife, aided by a few friends, spent the evening packing up their personal belongings. The keys were turned over soon afterwards.

Successor Named.

New York, Feb. 24.—Ballington Booth appeared at the Salvation headquarters last night for the first time since he ceased to be commander of the Army of the United States. A meeting took place behind closed doors. Soon after 10 o'clock the following bulletin was given out:

"Commissioner and Mrs. Booth-Tucker have been appointed successors to Commander Ballington Booth, and may be expected to arrive in this country with all dispatch.

"ALEXANDER NICOL, Commander."

FOREIGN.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

Serious Conflict Imminent Between the Two Houses.

Paris, Feb. 21.—The general opinion here is that the political crisis has been rendered more acute by the second vote of confidence passed yesterday by the chamber of deputies. It is expected that the Senate will persist in its resistance to the deputies, and, therefore, further trouble is anticipated.

A few of the newspapers, however, think that the Senate will yield under

PREMIER LEON BOURGEOIS.

the fear that a revision of the constitution might result in the abolishment of that body.

The Conservative organs declare that the cabinet's victory brings the whole constitution into question.

During the course of the debate yesterday, M. Raymond Poincare, Republican, representing the district of Commercy, declared that if M. Bourgeois sheltered himself behind a vote of confidence the general policy of the government would have the appearance of being afraid.

These remarks so annoyed the premier that after the sitting he sent two of his friends to M. Poincare in order to demand explanations. It is believed, however, that the matter will be arranged without a duel.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times says: The cabinet has obtained a victory after declarations which have

LOUIS RICARD, MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

minimized its revolutionary tendencies and under conditions which show its days are numbered.

The origin of the present crisis is thus given by Julian Ralph, in the New York Journal: Certain persons connected with the Southern railway fell under suspicion of having been engaged in transactions of doubtful honesty. There was an inquiry, owing to the delicate sense of the legislature for purity, and finally a prosecution. But some of the accused were acquitted. Then the rage of the political purists knew no bounds and the majority of the chamber voted to again prosecute the persons declared to be innocent.

"The cabinet, knowing that a second trial would be unconstitutional, resigned; whereupon M. Bourgeois, less particular about the law, formed a ministry to re-try the suspects.

Bourgeois selected Ricard as minister of justice to carry out this contempt of the law. Ricard took the Southern railway case out of the hands of Rempler, the examining magistrate, and handed it over to M. Poitevin. He did this because he thought Rempler was lukewarm.

For this Ricard was assailed in the senate by M. Monis and condemned by an overwhelming vote. He said he had changed the judges through an excess of zeal, and added that he had had the tacit consent of Rempler.

M. Monis said that Rempler had protested against the case being taken out of his hands, but Ricard denied this.

It has since turned out that Rempler wrote a formal protest, which the public prosecutor failed to show Ricard.

M. Combes, minister of public instruction, had, in the meantime, dabbled in Southern railway affairs and wrote a letter preparing for the nomination of himself or of one of his friends to a place in the board of directors. Combes may possibly have been honest, but Ricard is not considered too honest.

The senate, under the circumstances, censured the cabinet.

But Bourgeois refuses to resign. He considered it contrary to Radical principles to pay serious heed to a body like the senate. Therefore he and the M.M. Ricard and Combes appeared before the chamber of deputies and asked to be whitewashed.

The chamber performed the desired operation on the ground that that body would always differ with the senate.

On Saturday M. Monis repeated the charges and produced evidence against Ricard, which the senate thought so serious that it once again passed a vote of censure by 133 votes to 70.

Believed That the Strife is Ended.

Paris, Feb. 22.—Most of the newspapers regard the conflict between the ministry and the chamber of Deputies on the one side and the Senate on the other as ended. The moderate Republicans praise the wisdom of the Senate in baffling the hopes of the enemies of the Republic, and the Socialists and Radicals declare that the Senate capitulated, fearing a revision of the constitution which, however, is held to be inevitable. The Conservatives maintain that the Senate will finally win.

The Natal Times claims to have the best authority for the statement that the South African republic will on Feb. 27, the fifteenth anniversary of the Boer victory over the British under Gen. Colley, at Majubahill, proclaim its independence.

IS MACEO DEAD?

Said to Have Been Secretly Buried.

Havana, Feb. 22.—What is considered here as strong corroboration of the report of the death of Antonio Maceo has been received.

It seems that the squadron of Talavaro was making a charge upon a group of insurgents when three of the women who are fighting in the insurgent ranks, and who have come to be designated as Amazons, made their appearance.

The Spanish troopers had dismounted, and, under shelter of a fence, discharged their rifles into the insurgent ranks. A large number of the latter were seen to fall at the moment of the volley, the women carrying away many of the wounded.

One of these died and the body was secretly and mysteriously spirited away by the insurgents and their friends.

People living in the neighborhood affirm that the body thus secretly carried off was that of the dashing mulatto insurgent Gen. Antonio Maceo.

The troops are also alleged to have captured a riderless saddle horse, the saddle all bloodstained and bearing the initials "A. M."

Major Morro reports an engagement near Baracoa in which the insurgents were routed, carrying with them their leader, Salas and 70 privates wounded. They left on the field four dead officers and nine privates.

The forces of Gomez and Maceo are now on the borders between the provinces of Matanzes and Havana and are reported to have been divided.

REBELLION IN NICARAGUA.

The Liberals in Revolt Against Zelaya.

Managua, Nicaragua, Feb. 25 (via Galveston).—The flag of rebellion has once more been raised in Nicaragua and reports received here from the north this morning show that the whole district north of Lake Managua, including the departments of the west and north, are in open rebellion against President Zelaya. Martial law has been proclaimed, and the impressing of men into the army is being pushed rapidly. The president is supported by a wing of the Liberal party, and 2,000 men are already under arms. This town, the capital, is being rapidly made ready for defense, as the insurgents, whose headquarters are at Leon, the old capital of Nicaragua, and the center of the old Roman Catholic population, as opposed to the Catholics of more modern views, are expected to make an attack upon this city. A strong detachment of the Leonists has already left that town, and it is believed that Managua will be attacked to-morrow or the next day.

The insurgents are supported by a portion of the political party in power; but, up to the present, what is known as the opposition party proper has not joined the rebels.

A NEW Botanical Discovery

Which Will Prove a Blessing To Humanity.

THE WONDERFUL KAVA-KAVA SHRUB.

The Kava-Kava Shrub (*Piper Methysticum.*)

Of Special Interest to all Sufferers from Kidney or Bladder Disorders, Bright's Disease, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Pain in Back, Female Complaints and Irregularities, Blood Impurities, and other maladies caused by improper action of the Kidneys.

A FREE GIFT OF GREAT VALUE TO YOU.

A short time ago our readers were made aware of a valuable new botanical discovery, that of the Kava-Kava Shrub, or as botanists call it, piper methysticum, found on the banks of the Ganges river in East India. From a medical standpoint this is perhaps the most important discovery of the century. The use of the Kava-Kava Shrub, like other valuable medical substances, opium and quinine, was first observed by Christian missionaries among the natives of India as a sovereign remedy for Kidney diseases. Speaking of the use of the Kava-Kava Shrub by the natives of India, Dr. Archibald Hudgson, the great authority on these diseases, says:

"Intense heat and moisture of this tropical climate acting upon the decaying vegetation renders these low grounds on the Ganges the most unhealthy districts found anywhere. Jungle fevers and miasma assail the system, and even the most robust constitutions yield to the deadly climatic influences. The Blood becomes deranged and the Urine is thick and dark-colored and loaded with the products of disease, which the Kidneys are vainly endeavoring to exerete from the system. Under these conditions the other organs become affected, and life hangs in the balance. Then when all the remedies of modern medical science fail, the only hope and harbor of safety are found in the prompt use of Kava-Kava shrub. A decoction of this wonderful botanical growth relieves the Kidneys and overcomes the poison, and off the diseased products from the Blood. The Urine becomes clearer, the fever abates and the intense suffering and nausea are alleviated. Recovery sets in and the patient slowly returns to health."

Of all the diseases that afflict mankind Diseases of the Kidneys are the most fatal and dangerous, and this being the case, it is but natural that the discovery of the Kava-Kava shrub—Nature's Positive Specific Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases of the Kidneys—is welcomed as a gift to suffering humanity.

Alkavis, which is the medical compound of the Kava-Kava shrub, is endorsed by the Hospitals and Physicians of Europe as a sure Specific Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Diabetes, Bright's Disease, Brick-Dust deposits, Rheumatism, Liver Disease, Female Complaint, pain in back, and all diseases caused by impurities of the Blood due to defective action of the Kidneys.

Rev. W. B. Moore, of Washington, D. C., Editor of the "Religious World," writes of the wonderful curative effects of Alkavis.

"For several years I was a sufferer from Kidney troubles, and could obtain no relief from physicians. I used various Kidney remedies but with no success. I had given up all hopes of ever recovering my health, until hearing of the marvelous cures effected by your Alkavis, decided to try same. After using the first bottle I began to experience relief, and following up the treatment was permanently cured. I cheerfully recommended your excellent Alkavis to persons afflicted with Kidney and Rheumatic disorders as the best remedy known."

Dr. A. R. Knapp, a well-known surgeon and physician of Leoti, Kansas, voices the opinion of the doctors and writes:

"The case I ordered Alkavis for has improved wonderfully. I believe you have in Alkavis a complete specific for all Kidney troubles."

Mr. R. C. Wood, a prominent attorney of Lowell, Indiana, was cured by Alkavis of Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder trouble of ten years' standing. He writes:

"I have been treated by all our home physicians without the least benefit. My bladder trouble became so troublesome that I had to get up from five to twelve times during the night to urinate. In fact, I was in misery the whole time and was becoming very despondent. * * * I have now used Alkavis and am better than I have been for five years. I know Alkavis will cure bladder and kidney trouble. * * * It is a wonderful and grand, good remedy."

And even more wonderful is the testimony of Rev. John H. Watson, of Sunset, Texas, a minister of the gospel in thirty years' service, stricken down at his post of duty by Kidney disease. He says:

"I was suddenly stricken down on the 22d of June with an acute attack of kidney trouble (uric acid gravel). For two months I lay hovering on the border line of life, and with the constant care of two excellent physicians, I only received temporary relief. My family physician told me plainly the best I could hope for was temporary respite. I might rally only to collapse suddenly or might linger some time. But the verdict was that my work had for years warned others to be ready, so now more than ever I must needs put my house in order and expect the end. Meantime I had heard of Alkavis and wrote to an army comrade (now principal of a college) who had tried it. He wrote me by all means to try it as it had made a new man of him. At the end of two months and then only able to sit up a little, I dismissed my physicians and began the use of Alkavis. In two weeks I could ride out in the carriage for a short time. The improvement has been * * * constant and steady. I am now able to look after my business. I feel I owe what life and strength I have to Alkavis. * * * I am fifty-five years old, have been a minister over thirty years, have thousands of acquaintances, and to every one of them who may be afflicted with any kind of kidney trouble, I would say, try Alkavis."

Another most remarkable cure is that of Rev. Thomas Smith, of Cobden, Illinois, who passed nearly one hundred gravel stones under two weeks' use of this great remedy, Alkavis.

The Church Kidney Cure company, of 415 Fourth Avenue, New York City, so far are the only importers of Alkavis, and they are so anxious to prove its value that they will send a Large Case by mail free to Every Sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy Cystitis, Gravel, Female Complaints and Irregularities, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all readers to send their names and address to the company and receive the Large Case by mail free. It costs you nothing, and you should surely try it.

THE BLADE'S Great Seed Premiums

THE BEST COLLECTION OF SEED

WASHINGTON.

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION.

Speeches in the Senate Convey a Warning to Spain.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—In the Senate yesterday afternoon Mr. Call had the Cuban resolution called up. The resolution as reported by the committee on foreign affairs is:

Resolved, by the Senate (the House concurring), That in the opinion of Congress a condition of war exists between the government of Spain and the government proclaimed, and for some time maintained by force of arms by the people of Cuba, and that the United States of America should maintain a strict neutrality between the contending powers according to each all the rights of belligerents in the ports and territory of the United States.

Mr. Cameron (Rep., Pa.) moved the substitution of the following:

"Resolved, That the President is hereby requested to interpose his friendly offices with the Spanish government for the recognition of the independence of Cuba."

Mr. Cameron, in support of the substitute he had offered, said:

"For my part, I regard the question of belligerency as a false issue, a mistake into which the friends of Cuba should not fall. If Spain wished to impede or delay effective action on our part she will encourage us to waste our energy and our initiative in struggling with the legal difficulties that involve this question of belligerency, which, when stripped of all its popular notions, is at most an empty, or perhaps a mischievous legal form. I wish the government to act. I want to see the misery of Cuba ended."

Mr. Cameron said in conclusion that if this resolution was adopted and S. shall paid no attention to it, he would move the immediate recognition of Cuba.

Mr. Lodge spoke vigorously as to the need of action.

The time had come, declared Mr. Lodge, when it was the duty of the United States to act firmly and fully. The past relations between this country and Spain offered no ties of gratitude or blood to check our actions. The senator reviewed the question of friendship of Spain towards the United States. England was the first to thrust her hand into our bloody wound at the outbreak of the first war, France was next and Spain followed. Within three months of the firing on Sumpter, Spain had recognized the Confederacy. A free Cuba would mean the development of that splendid island, one of the richest spots on the face of the earth. But there was a political, rather than a material interest which bid us act. Cuba lay athwart the route to the Nicaragua canal. She was the sentinel of the gulf, the great bulwark of the American coast.

"If the war goes on, with that bloody commander in charge, the responsibility is on our shoulders. We cannot avoid it.

"There was a burst of applause in the galleries as Mr. Lodge concluded."

Mr. Morgan, who reported the resolution, followed. He said the possibilities of war between the United States and Spain should in no way embarrass the consideration of the subject and the shaping of a proper course. The committee in submitting this resolution was not moved by retaliation or by any consideration of past relations between the countries. It was based solely on the conditions and requirements of to-day.

Mr. Morgan then took up the legal questions involved, explaining the duties and obligations of recognizing belligerency. When armies are formed and men leave their places as citizens and become soldiers then the civilized world recognizes this transformation as creating a state of belligerency. Under existing circumstances those participating in the uprising were not recognized by Spain as soldiers, but felons rising against their government to be treated with the ignominy of felons. And yet, said Mr. Morgan, while war is public and beyond the possibility of question or denial, Spain refuses to recognize the war. She kills in the castle, exiles men to penal colonies in Africa. She inflicts penalties unwarranted even if war did not exist. And with war public and notorious it became the duty of the United States and all other countries to demand the recognition of Cubans as soldiers, not as felons.

The United States should be the first to step to the front and say to Spain, "You have long enough lacerated those people." The Senator said the attitude taken by the United States acting according to its plain duty need give no offense to Spain. But, if it did give offense, then it was a choice between that and one of offense and offense against the god of nations. Such a choice could be made with firmness and confidence.

Mr. Morgan said the Cuban republic already exists. It might yet be in embryo, yet, in doing this the world would recognize it as a republic. If the island of Cuba had been as close to Great Britain as to the United States, Cuba would have been absorbed a century ago.

Mr. Morgan said he approached this question reluctantly, but that the committee on foreign relations had found itself confronted by a large mass of petitions and had felt it to be encumbent upon it to take some action. It was necessary to either report adversely or favorably, and he would say what he had said in committee, that he contemplated war as the end of whatever action the United States might take, not that Spain would be justified in resenting any interference, but because of the feeling entertained by Spain toward this country.

The fetters which Spain had fastened upon the limbs of Cuba in the beginning were rotting away, and if this revolution does not free Cuba, the next or the next will. Spain knows and feels this, and would rather lose Cuba while in conflict with the United States than to lose it in any other way. Spain, he contended, had no legitimate excuse to hold Cuba, after Mexico, Venezuela and the Central American countries had achieved their independence and Cuba would have achieved her independence at the same time that th other countries did but for the existence of slavery. Now the circumstances were different and the very slaves are engaged with their former masters in the fight for liberty.

Mr. Morgan repeated his declaration of reluctance to enter upon this assertion of the American position, but he had taken the step with deliberation and had felt that in doing this America had practically drawn her sword and in effect said to Spain she could resent the act if so disposed. (This statement brought out a slight burst of applause in the galleries.)

Mr. Morgan said his opinion was that Congress had a perfect right to make a declaration of war and an absolute, perfect and independent right to recognize belligerency or to recognize independence and to enforce the declaration by a military movement either by land or sea. Furthermore, Congress had the right to command the commander-in-chief of the army to go in the field in the execution of the order. (This statement brought out a burst of applause.)

Mr. Morgan did not conclude his speech, saying he would go on another day, as there were many points connected with the question which he wanted to touch upon at greater length than he could do to-day.

Mr. Chandler suggested that as the debate was taking a wide range and there were several speeches yet to be made, it would be well for the Senate now to adopt a simple concurrent resolution of sympathy and then allow the debate to proceed in order that the Cubans might have the benefit of knowing our interest in them before the termination of the war.

Mr. Morgan said he was ready at this for a vote if Mr. Chandler could secure unanimous consent. Mr. Chandler thereupon asked for a vote, but several senators objected.

ILLITERATE IMMIGRANTS.

Senator Lodge Introduced a Bill to Restrict Their Coming.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Senator Lodge, chairman of the committee on immigration, yesterday reported a bill from that committee for the restriction of illegal immigration. The bill provides for the exclusion of all persons who are unable to read and write any language.

The committee say that all that has hitherto been done to improve and restrict immigration has been beneficial, but that it has not been sufficient to reach the objectionable classes.

The House committee on territories today voted to reconsider its former vote against the Arizona and New Mexico statehood bills, thus leaving them still before the committee.

There is little chance that the revenue bill will pass the Senate at this session of Congress. If it does pass, President Cleveland is almost sure to veto it. Reports have recently been published that the President would sign the measure should it be sent to him. There is no warrant for such statements. Mr. Cleveland is bitterly opposed to the little protection found in the House bill.

The government has been literally turned topsy-turvy for the benefit of silver. The equities of the system of popular representation have been destroyed. New states have been brought in, devoted to a single interest, till nullification has resulted. This is a Congress whose Senate stands like a stone wall against everything that does not make for silver, and whose House of Representatives is against silver in the proportion of five to two.

Within the next 30 days a great effort is to be made to induce William C. Whitney to come out as a candidate for the presidential nomination. It is safe to say that Mr. Whitney will be subjected to such pressure as no American politician has been able to withstand under similar circumstances. It is argued that unless Mr. Whitney permits the use of his name the chances are that William R. Morrison will run away with the nomination on a programme of silver compromise, which would put the party back 25 years and nullify all that has been accomplished by the 12 years of Mr. Cleveland's leadership.

It may be regarded as certain that the President does not intend to permit Mr. Morrison to be nominated if he can prevent it. If no one else is able to make successful headway against Morrison, the President might permit the use of his own name. On the other hand, if the effort to bring Mr. Whitney into the race should be successful, then it is quite probable the President would make public announcement of his own withdrawal.

Senator Allen yesterday introduced a bill requiring purchasers of lands granted to railroad companies to pay the government instead of the companies for these lands, the money to be held by the government as a trust fund until the railroad indebtedness to the government shall be adjudicated. The bill requires a complete issuance of patents to purchasers complying with this requirement.

The urgent deficiency appropriation bill as agreed to by the conference committee of the two Houses, appropriates $6,305,430 or about $2,000,000 more than the House bill and $240,000 more than the bill as it passed the Senate provided for.

The committee on ways and means has authorized Chairman Dingley to report favorably his bill relating to the extermination of the Alaskan seal herd if measures for their protection shall not be obtained.

Mr. Baldwin, the new assistant Secretary of State, turns out to be the husband of Mrs. Cleveland's roommate at Wellesley college. She was formerly Miss Catherine Willard, and a niece of Miss Frances E. Willard.

THE McKINLEY LAW.

The Reciprocity Feature of It of High Value.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The ways and means committee of the House is preparing to make a thorough inquiry into the operations of the reciprocity features of the McKinley law. That this feature of the McKinley act proved of great value to the commerce of the country, especially that in which the farmers, the dealers in meats and grain and different lines of manufacturers were interested, cannot be doubted. How great its benefits were, however, is scarcely realized until the falling off in the exports and prices which resulted from its repeal are taken into consideration.

One of the most interesting statements which have been laid before the ways and means committee this session is that relating to the reciprocity features of the McKinley law which was presented to the committee by Mr. Samuel W. Allerton, of Chicago, one of the most prominent and wealthy of her active business men. He said that since the repeal of the McKinley law, which of course ended the application of the reciprocity features under the law, foreign countries have imposed more burdensome restrictions upon American products. These burdens, he said, have fallen especially on stockmen. The exports of cattle had fallen off more than 300,000 head per annum, and the values dropped $1.50 per hundred since this act was repealed. Germany and France, Mr. Allerton said, had almost entirely shut out American meat products, and England was practically the only European market now left open to the stock producers of this country. With reciprocity, Mr. Allerton said, this government could bring European countries to terms by refusing to receive their products unless they omit further discrimination against our products. Germany has excluded our meat products upon grounds which are not reasonable, and with reciprocity we could compel them to discontinue this unjust discrimination.

Mr. Allerton also referred to the general condition of the business interests of the country under the McKinley law, comparing it with the present depressed condition. New England alone had taken nearly half a million dollars loss per annum from the West in farm products under the Wilson law than it had under the McKinley law. This, he said, is due to the fact that the manufacturing interest in New England had been ruined since the repeal of the McKinley law, and its people are unable to buy the products of the Western farms which they had been in the habit of purchasing freely while the McKinley law with its protective and reciprocity features was in existence.

CONGRESS THIS WEEK.

The Cuban Question Will Be Much Debated.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The probabilities are that the Cuban question and the tariff bill as affected by the silver substitute will divide the greater part of the time of the Senate during the present week.

Senator Morgan will continue his speech on the Cuban question whenever that subject is taken up. He will probably consume the greater part of another day in expounding his views and will be followed by other Senators, including several of the members of the committee on foreign relations, among them being Senators Sherman, Gray and Turpie. There also will be speeches on Cuba by several Senators not members of the committee. Senator White will make an address during the week on the legal aspect of the Cuban resolution, criticising its form and contending that there can be no recognition of belligerency except by executive action.

It is the purpose of the advocates of Cuban recognition to keep the question as well to the front as they can until it shall be disposed of, though they are not hopeful of securing a vote this week.

Senator Carter will make his speech on Wednesday on the tariff silver bill, and is expected to explain his reasons as well as those of his Republican colleagues in voting against the consideration of the bill ten days ago upon Senator Morrill's motion. He will in all likelihood be followed by other Senators who acted with him, and a very animated debate may result.

Adjournment in Sight.

The House is pushing ahead the appropriation bills with all possible speed with a view to an early final adjournment. Already five of the thirteen general appropriation bills have been sent to the Senate—the army, military academy, urgent deficiency, diplomatic and consular and agricultural. The District of Columbia bill has in it several disputed items, but will, it is believed, cause little trouble when it is again brought into the House. The Indian bill is now under consideration and the legislative, executive and judicial, the next in order, is on the calendar. The naval and postoffice bills will be brought in this week. When these are disposed of but three will remain, the sundry civil, general deficiency and fortifications.

Mr. Cannon, chairman of the appropriations committee, stated to an Associated Press reporter to-day that a sine die adjournment should be reached by the middle of May.

THE NATIONAL SENATE.

Honors the Name and Memory of Washington.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The Senate met to-day to listen to the reading of Washington's farewell address by Senator Frye, the president pro tempore of the Senate. This was in accordance with a resolution previously introduced by Senator Hoar, and was proceeded with immediately after the conclusion of the reading of the journal of Thursday. The Vice President occupied the seat of the presiding officer, and Mr. Frye took his position behind the secretary's desk, thus facing the entire Senate. He read from an old volume printed in large type, and without any special effort filled the large chamber with his resonant voice, so that the patriotic and well-rounded sentnces were heard by all the large audience present.

There was a liberal attendance of senators, and the only vacant seats in the galleries were in the diplomatic and Senate sections. The diplomatic gallery was entirely vacant, but almost all the seats in the gallery set apart for the families of senators were taken. The Vice President's pew was entirely filled, and the President's was also occupied. Many presented themselves for admission to the popular galleries a considerable time before the opening of the doors, and they continued to arrive, so that a large number were prevented from gaining admission. Close attention was given to the reading, by both the senators and other auditors, rendering the ceremony thoroughly impressive and none the less so on account of the simplicity and the absence of ostentation with which it was marked.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

TARIFF BILL DEAD.

Senator Morrill's Motion to Take It Up Defeated.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—Senator Morrill to-day moved to take up the tariff bill, and the motion was defeated by a vote of 33 against 22.

After the vote had been announced on the defeat of Mr. Morrill's motion a sensational colloquy occurred between Mr. Morrill, Mr. Teller and Mr. Sherman. Mr. Morrill said the tariff bill was dead, and he added that it was now shown there was not a Republican majority in the Senate.

Mr. Teller responded with intense feeling. He declared that he and his silver Republican associates could not be read out of the Republican party.

Mr. Sherman followed with a severe arraignment of the inaction of Congress, saying it was a crime against the country and against civilization. He declared that he would continue to urge action on the tariff bill.

Mr. Frye (Rep. Maine), took the floor to declare that the tariff bill was as dead as Julius Caesar. Business interests demanded that the statement be made emphatically that the bill was dead. He hoped it would never be heard from again, and that the responsibility should rest where it belonged.

The vote on Morrill's motion to take up the tariff bill was as follows:

Yeas, Republicans — Aldrich, Allison, Baker, Brown, Burrows, Cameron, Clark, Cullom, Davis, Hale, Hansbrough, Hawley, Lodge, Mitchell (Ore.), Morrill, Nelson, Perkins, Proctor, Quay, Sherman, Shoup, Gear—22.

Nays, Republicans—Cannon, Carter, Dubois, Mantell and Teller—5. Democrats—Bacon, Bate, Berry, Caffery, Call, Chilton, Cockrell, George, Gordon, Gray, Harris, Hill, Lindsay, Martin, Morgan, Palmer, Pasco, Roach, Turpie, Vest, Walthall, White—22. Populists—Allen, Butler, Jones, (Nev.), Kyle, Peffer and Stewart—6.

TWO BILLS PASSED.

Congress Passes Indian Appropriations—Also Dingley's Seal Bill.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The House today promptly passed the Indian appropriation bill as amended. No one demanded a separate vote in the House on the Linton sectarian school amendment as agreed to in committee of the whole. The Ogden, New York, land claim item was stricken from the bill in order to avoid a long discussion.

Mr. Dingley, chairman of the ways and means committee, reported from that committee yesterday authorizing the President to conclude negotiations with Russia, England and Japan, or either of them, for a commission to inquire into the habits of the Alaskan fur seals and the best method of preserving the seal herds; pending which the President was authorized by the bill to conclude a modus vivendi to terminate January 1, 1898, for the protection of the seals, and in case such modus vivendi could not be concluded before the opening of the present season, the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized to take and kill all fur seals while on their feeding grounds on the Pribyloff islands. Mr. Dingley had the report of the committee, which has already been published, read, and he explained that the necessity for immediate action arose from the fact that the Canadian pelagic sealers, whose ravages the bill sought to prevent, were already fitting out their vessels, and would begin to sail in the course of a week. The bill was passed without debate.

MORE BATTLESHIPS.

House Naval Affairs Sub-Committee Favor Additional Boats.

Washington, Feb. 19.—A considerable increase in the number of battleships for the navy is likely if the views prevail of the sub-committee of the House naval affairs committee. The sub-committee was in session for several hours yesterday and the decision disclosed a majority in favor of making provision for at least four and probably six line-of-battle ships. The torpedo boats to be authorized will depend very largely on the number of battle ships recommended.

Secretary Herbert recommended a provision for the enlistment of 1,000 additional men for the navy and favorable action was taken by the sub-committee on the recommendation.

The sum of $250,000 will be appropriated toward the construction of guns for the vessels under subvention by the government, such as the Paris and the New York.

The proposition for the construction of new buildings for the naval academy will not, it is believed, be incorporated as a feature of the naval appropriation bill.

TWO BIG ONES.

The Military Academy and Pension Bills Passed.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The session of the Senate yesterday furnished a succession of breezy incidents. Little actual work was accomplished, but brief debates on a number of subjects developed frequent sharp personal exchanges between the Senators.

Two appropriation bills, the military academy and the pension bill, were passed during the day. Efforts were made to amend the military academy bill by increasing the number of cadets by two from each state, 90 in all, but after a debate of two hours the plan was defeated. The pension appropriation bill, carrying $142,000,000 was passed after ten minutes' debate.

When the Senate met at noon Mr. Allen (Pop., Neb.) asked the finance committee what steps were to be taken toward a conference with the House on the silver bond bill. It was explained that the House had not asked for a conference on its non-concurrence and no further action was taken.

WALLER IS FREE.

Released From Jail and Will Return to the United States.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Secretary Olney received a cablegram to-day from Ambassador Eustis announcing that Waller, the ex-consul to Madagascar, was released from jail to-day. It is expected that Waller will join his family in the United States.

As Waller is entirely destitute of means our ambassador, Mr. Eustis, has been authorized by Secretary Olney to provide him with transportation to the United States. He has been in prison for nearly a year, having been arrested by the French authorities on the 5th of March last in Madagascar, and afterwards being kept in confinement in the military prisons in France. The authorities here feel that they have reason to be gratified at the outcome of the case, which, as revealed by the correspondence on the subject, came nearer than the public was aware at one time to an actual severance of diplomatic relations between the two republics.

THE JESUIT EXPLORER.

Unveiling of Pere Marquette's Statue at Washington.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The unveiling of Pere Marquette's statue in Statuary Hall, at the capitol, which will occur soon, will be the first instance of the placing of a memorial to a churchman in the Capitol. The statue arrived Wednesday, and is being put in position ready for unveiling. Father Marquette is represented in the garb of the Jesuits, standing with a map of Wisconsin in his left hand, the right grasping his robe. The statue was executed by Trentenove, and is a magnificent piece of work. A bill has been passed by Congress accepting the memorial, which is a gift of the state of Wisconsin in recognition of Father Marquette's services as an explorer. It is expected that the unveiling exercises will be attended by Cardinal Satolli, Cardinal Gibbons and the French and Italian ambassadors, together with a number of high dignitaries of the Catholic church. The arrangements for the ceremonies have not yet been made.

DEFERRED GOLD PAYMENTS.

Total Amount Now Only Reaches $20,000,000.

Washington, Feb. 25.—To-day's Treasury statement shows the gold reserve to be $123,522,378. Of this amount $91,685,706 represents the aggregate in gold paid for bonds to date. The amount of b nds issued, however, is only $70,650,050, of which $43,413,650 are in coupons and $27,237,400 in registered, the balance being held on call from the purchasers. The total amount of the deferred gold payments, therefore is only about $20,000,000. Since January 6 last, the date of Secretary Carlisle's circular the total withdrawals of gold from the Treasury amount to $32,413,396, of which $22,589,263 or about twenty-five per cent of the whole gold receipts was not exported, but was used, it is said, in payment of bonds.

CALIFORNIA WHITE WHEAT

Should Have a Market in Peru, Says Our Consul.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Last year Chilean wheat to the amount of 1,185,020 bushels was imported into Peru. United States Consul Jastrimski, at Callao, who reports the fact to the State Department, says that this wheat is not well-adapted to the making of white bread or pastry, and it cannot bear comparison with California white wheat, which might easily command the Peruvian market if there were a line of direct steam communication down the coast.

INGERSOLL IN A CHURCH.

Consents to Occupy the Pulpit of the Militant Church.

Chicago, Feb. 25.—A letter was received from Robert-G. Ingersoll yesterday by Dr. John Rusk, accepting the latter's invitation to talk from the Militant church pulpit, on the subject of "What Practical Work a Christian Congregation Can and Should do for Humanity." Mr. Ingersoll wrote:

"My Dear Mr. Rusk:—I saw in the papers that you had written me, but I received nothing until on my return from the South, I found yours of the 27th of January. The next time I am in Chicago on Sunday it will give me pleasure to tell your congregation what my religion is and what I think a church should be. I am much pleased with the spirit of intellectual hospitality of your letter, and what I say, if anything, to your people will be in the same spirit of kindness and candor. Thanking you again and again, I remain, yours sincerely,

"R. G. INGERSOLL."

Dr. Rusk and the directors of the Militant church are much pleased with the letter, and an invitation will at once be extended to Mr. Ingersoll to become a guest of the Militant church club-house on Wabash avenue, during his next visit to Chicago.

SKELETONS FOUND.

Those of Army Deserters, Who Disappeared 32 Years Ago.

Colliers, Va., Feb. 24.—People are much excited in this city over a recent find, which, it is claimed, clears up a mystery of 32 years standing, the remains of four human beings having been discovered in an abandoned coal mine a mile east of here.

David Snyder has explored the old mine which has not been worked since the sixties, and discovered the human bones. One of the skeletons was sitting upright against a ledge. Beside this skeleton was found a flask containing a note which explained the mysterious disappearance of John Ewing, Ben Ayers, Tom Ackelson and Joe Obiey, 32 years ago. The notes were written in pencil but well preserved.

They stated that the men were deserters and were hiding in the mine when it caved in. Being without food, they killed and ate each other until the writer alone survived. It was signed Joseph Obey.

Several of the old residents hereabouts remember these men. It was generally believed that they had been killed in battle. As no relatives of the deceased men could be found their remains were given in charge of Andy Lister for interment.

A LETTER FROM CLEVELAND.

Will Soon Come on the Third Term Question.

New York, Feb. 19.—The World this morning says:

Mr. E. C. Benedict, the broker and close personal friend of President Cleveland, said to-day:

"Mr. Cleveland will answer the third term question very distinctly at a not distant day. He will not keep the Democrats waiting. I can not say more just now."

Of the general situation, Mr. Benedict said:

"Both parties are very much unsettled as to a sound and sensible financial policy. All the issues have faded out. In this respect the Republicans are as bad off as the Democrats. Every time there is a heavy rainfall you would have a freshet and a considerable amount of dirt and debris is washed down. When a political landslide occurs, a lot of riff-raff and worthless rubbish is brought to the front, and the country has to suffer while they play fantastic tricks in Congress and make even angels weep.

"The idea of this rich and prosperous country going around among the nations in the role of a beggar with a ragged shirt, is ridiculous. Such things will not and can not continue long."

WRITER FOR MAGAZINES.

Ex-President Harrison Offered Large Inducements to Contribute.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 24.—If the friends of ex-President Harrison have been rightly advised of his plans for the coming summer, it is highly probable that there will be a decided change in his field of work and that instead of devoting himself exclusively to the legal profession, he will make it secondary to another and what has proved so far to be equally profitable and at the same time a more congenial line of study. It is said that his appearance in some of the magazines as a writer has attracted attention to him both in this country and Europe, and he has been offered highly remunerative prices for contributions to these periodicals, some of them suggesting a line that would be acceptable and others leaving to himself the choice of subjects.

HE IS LUCKY.

Waiter in a Restaurant Heir to Half a Million.

Sacramento, Feb. 20.—Mathew Gogovitch, who until yesterday earned a living as a waiter in the restaurants of this city, has received news from Austria that he is heir to half a million dollars. He turns out to be the son of Stive S. Gogovitch, a wealthy man of Hastro, Austria, and who, during the war with Turkey was comptroller for the Prince of Montenegro.

Senator John Gogovitch, of Eureka, Nev., is a nephew of the deceased, and according to a letter received by Mathew also comes in for quite a comfortable legacy. Young Gogovitch ran away from home when 14 years of age and joined the Austrian navy. After serving his term of enlistment he came to this country. He has been in California about six years, principally serving as a waiter.

HARRISON FOR NEW YORK.

The Next Trip He Will Marry Mrs. Dimmick.

Indianapolis, Feb. 21.—General Benjamin Harrison left over the Pennsylvania line to-day for New York, accompanied by his secretary. It is understood that this will be Mr. Harrison's last trip to New York until next April, when he and Mrs. Dimmick will be married. General Harrison will return to Indianapolis next week. Many artists have made sketches of the Harrison homestead preparatory to the marriage story, but requests for interviews have been refused.

Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 22.—Directors of the Trans-Mississippi exposition held a meeting yesterday afternoon. A letter was read from Governor Stone, of Missouri, stating his friendliness for the exposition and also that he would write to members of Congress from his state and urge them to give their attention to favorable legislation.

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCES.

What the Newspaper Men of the Country Think of It.

Pittsburg, Feb. 25.—The Dispatch, yesterday, published a table giving an estimate of the vote on first ballot at St. Louis. The figures in the following tables were obtained, in most instances, from leading newspapers in the various states. They represent the most definite and accurate reports obtainable at this time.

The canvass made strengthens the conclusion heretofore reached that at the opening of the struggle it will be McKinley against the field. The Ohio candidate will have a pronounced lead over any one of his rivals on the first roll-call. The question to be demonstrated is whether this vote will be the limit of his strength, and whether it can be held through subsequent ballots. The tactics of the opposition will be rather to tire McKinley's supporters out than to endeavor to concentrate upon any one else early in the proceedings, a movement which would be fraught with considerable danger.

Speaker Reed does not make such a strong showing in the figures as generally anticipated. This is largely due to the fact that he is the second choice of many of the favorite son candidates, and his full strength will not be in evidence on the early roll-calls for that reason.

The following are the estimates for the first ballot, based on replies from newspapers of the various states:

STATE.	McKinley	Reed	Quay	Allison	Morton	Davis	Cullom
Alabama	12	4		4	2		
Arkansas	16						
California	6	8		4			
Colorado	4			8			
Connecticut		8	2				
Delaware	2		3				
Florida	4		4				
Georgia	20	6					
*Idaho							
Illinois	12						36
Indiana	20	4		6			
Iowa				26			
Kansas	20						
*Kentucky							
Louisiana	6	8			3		
Maine		12					
Maryland					16		
Massachusetts		30					
Michigan	16	10		2			
Minnesota						18	
Mississippi	10	6		2			
Missouri	26	6	2	3			
Montana				4			
Nebraska	12	4					
*Nevada							
N. Hampshire		8			3		
New Jersey	6	10	2		12		
New York					72		
South Carolina	14	8					
North Dakota	2			2		2	
Ohio	46	4					
Oregon	4						
Pennsylvania			64				
Rhode Island		8					
South Carolina	6	8		4			
South Dakota	2	8		4			
Tennessee	14	10		1	1		
Texas	14	10		6			
Vermont		8					
Virginia	8	10	4	2			
Washington	6	2					
W. Virginia	10	2					
Wisconsin	10	4		2		2	2
Wyoming	2	2	2				
*Utah							
Arizona							
New Mexico		3					
Oklahoma		3		1			
Alaska	1	1					
Indian Ter.	2	1		1			
Dis. of Colum.		2					

*Idaho, Nevada and Utah declare their votes will be cast for some free silver candidate. Kentucky will probably vote for Mr. Bradley on the first ballot.

Totals on the First Ballot.

These figures show the following totals for the first ballot:

McKinley	333
Reed	215
Quay	70
Allison	80
Morton	97
Davis	22
Cullom	38
Bradley	26
Scattering	18
Total	917

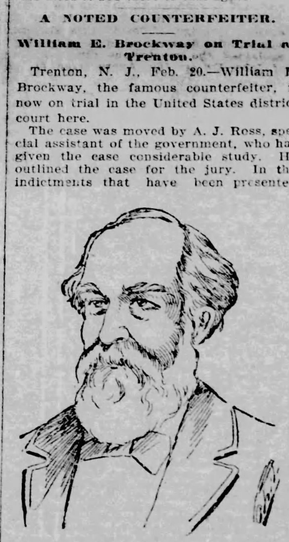
The number necessary to a choice is 459. It will be seen that McKinley now lacks 124 and Reed is 244 short of that figure.

A NOTED COUNTERFEITER.

William E. Brockway on Trial at Trenton.

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 20.—William E. Brockway, the famous counterfeiter, is now on trial in the United States district court here.

The case was moved by A. J. Ross, special assistant of the government, who has given the case considerable study. He outlined the case for the jury. In the indictments that have been presented



WILLIAM E. BROCKWAY.

there are ten counts against the defendants, William Brockway, Abbie L. Smith and C. V. Wagner, charging them with having in their possession and criminally using plates for counterfeiting, paper on which to counterfeit, inks and other materials.

A long table in front of the jury box is well laden with the paraphernalia of the business. It includes bond paper, presses, ink plates, counterfeit notes and a miscellaneous collection of odds and ends which the business required.

Secretary Carlisle has been summoned as a witness, to swear that the authorized no one to put in the Hoboken house the government paper found there, and which is technically called destructive paper, and which, it was testified yesterday was found in the house in addition to the $500 plate.

Lawyer Guild, Brockway's counsel, said the paper was there without the knowledge of his client, and the same thing was said for the other defendants by their counsel. The intimation that the paper might have got there through the government officials caused Chief Hazen of the secret service to flush angrily, while District Attorney Rose was noticeably annoyed.

PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL CONTESTS.

Results of the Election in the Municipalities.

Philadelphia, Feb. 19.—Local elections were held in this state yesterday. Several interesting contests were waged in the larger cities which elected mayors. In this city the ticket was headed by John L. Kinsy, Republican and Arthur Biddle, Democrat, candidates for city solicitor. Kinsy was elected by a majority that will probably exceed the Democratic vote.

In this city the followers of Senator Quay, who are known as "anti-combiners," were expected to help the municipal league in its efforts to defeat the "combine" candidates, but they appear to have voted and worked for the regular Republican ticket, with the result that the reformers were snowed under.

At Altoona, the mayoralty contest is very close between Barr, Republican, and Murray, Democrat.

At Williamsport, James Mansel, Prohibitionist, was elected.

Harrisburg elected John D. Patterson, Republican.

Chambersburg elected George C. Cooke, Democrat, borough auditor. This is the first time a Democrat has been elected there in six years.

Lancaster elected Edward Smeltz, Republican, by a small majority.

Erie elected a Democratic mayor.

At Pittsburg a very hot political battle was fought, and returns from 103 out of 203 precincts, indicate that the Republicans have elected their ticket.

Indianapolis Chosen.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 20.—A special from Jacksonville, Fla., says that Indianapolis was yesterday chosen as the place for holding the convention of the National School Superintendents' association next year. The association is now meeting at Jacksonville. Detroit and Chattanooga were the contestants.

DISTRESSING DISEASES OF THE SKIN Instantly Relieved and Speedily Cured by

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SPEEDY CURE TREATMENT.—Warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, gentle applications of CUTICURA (ointment), and mild doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT (the new blood purifier) Sold throughout the world. British depot: F. NEWBERY & SONS, 1, King Edward-st., London. POTTER DRUG & CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

REDUCING COLLEGE COURSES.

President Eliot's Scheme for Harvard About Consummated.

New York, Feb. 20.—A special to a local paper from Cambridge, Mass., says:

The scheme of President Eliot, of Harvard, for reducing the college course from four years to three, appears about to be consummated. At a recent meeting of the Harvard faculty an informal vote was taken and a majority of some fifteen voted that such a plan was advisable. But the minority were so rabid against it that it was not deemed prudent to present the plan to the corporation and overseerers just at present. Accordingly, the plan will shortly receive further and final consideration. The way in which it is proposed to do this is to reduce the number of courses required for the degree of A. B., from eighteen to fifteen. As most students finish fifteen courses in three years, this could easily be done, and the result would be three classes at Harvard and not four. In connection with this, it is proposed to change the grades of scholarship from A to E, inclusive, to A, B and C. A would be creditable, B passable and C failure to pass. It is proposed that a student, in order to get the degree in three years, must have no Cs, and creditable marks in at least twelve courses. This also would not be burdensome. President Eliot was seen last night, and admitted the reported condition of affairs. He has for a long time been working for this, and has nearly seen the consummation of his plans. This announcement will create a great sensation, as it has not been dreamed of by any person outside of the faculty.

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?

Nicaragua Canal Company Wants an Expression From That Body.

New York, Feb. 21.—At the annual meeting of the Nicaragua canal company the following directors were elected: Warner Miller, John P. Bantin, John W. Mackay, Stuyresant Fish, J. J. Emery, Smith M. Weed, J. W. Miller, H. E. Howland, E. C. O'Brien, A. M. Hoyt, H. G. Burleigh, H. D. Pierce, M. C. D. Borden and A. B. Hepburn. Mr. Weed was elected president.

It was the first annual meeting since the reorganization. The intention is to push the project as soon as they find out the attitude of Congress toward it. Warner Miller will go to Washington to appear before the House committee, and outline the views of the board as to the cost of the canal, and how it should be controlled. They are firm in the belief that its cost will be much less than reported by the government engineers, and they say that if the United States does not want to help build it, they expect to be able to secure sufficient capital in Europe. The work will be pushed as soon as they receive definite assurance in regard to the purpose of Congress.

DIDN'T GRANT DIVORCE.

Archbishop Ireland Explains That a Mistake Has Been Made.

St. Paul, Feb. 21.—To a representative of the Associated Press yesterday Archbishop Ireland said:

"The report coming from Halifax that Pope Leo XIII. has granted a full, or an avinculo divorce on the ground of infidelity on the part of the woman is clearly a misinterpretation of the facts in the case. It is certain no divorce has been granted on the ground of infidelity. The positive, inflexible teachings of the Catholic church is that a valid marriage contract, duly consummated cannot be annulled by any authority of state or church, death alone terminating its obligations. Where the marriage contract was from the beginning null and void, through some natural or canonical impediment, or was never duly consummated, declarations of nullity, or dispensations may be, and often are obtained from ecclesiastical courts. Nothing beyond this ever occurs or ever can occur in the Catholic church.

THE PEARL BRYAN MURDER.

Jackson and Walling Will Be Tried in Kentucky.

Cincinnati, Feb. 19.—Sheriff Plummer, of Campbell county, Ky., reached here last night with a requisition approved by Governor Bushnell, for the extradition of Jackson and Walling. The proceedings agreed upon are that the prisoners shall be brought into the police court on February 27, where the requisition will be presented by Sheriff Archibald, of Hamilton county, who will take the prisoners to a court of competent jurisdiction, either the common pleas the circuit court or the supreme court. It is most likely it will be brought to the circuit court. After that there can be no delay, except by habeas corpus. It is not likely this will be resorted to in the present state of public feeling. The prisoners will be taken to Covington jail, one of the strongest in the state of Kentucky.

SMUGGLED DIAMONDS.

Authorities Believe Some of the Tainted Goods Are in Ohio.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 19.—When Charles Rogers, a local diamond dealer, called for a package at the express office yesterday, said to contain $38,000 worth of diamonds, he was confronted by a United States officer who told him it would be advisable to let the package remain in the express office pending an investigation. The authorities believe that smuggled diamonds, obtained through the Cincinnati house which is alleged to be involved in the smuggling case just brought to light in the East, are being disposed of in this city. Rogers declares that the goods are all straight, but admits that he buys them 45 per cent. cheaper than New York jobbers can sell for. Rogers was not arrested, but the package will remain in the express office for the time being.

ARE THEY LOST?

Fears Entertained for a Party of Buffalo Fishermen.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 20.—A report is current that a party of men was lost on the lake outside the harbor during last night's storm. They went out yesterday afternoon to fish through the ice and were blinded by the squall that arose afterwards. Nothing has been heard of them to-day, but it is possible they may have landed somewhere along the shore. The party is variously estimated at from twelve to fifteen persons.

BIG STRIKE IN CHICAGO.

Prospect That Fifteen Thousand People Will Be Idle.

Chicago, Feb. 20.—Following the action taken at the meeting of the clothing cutters' and trimmers' association last night, about 400 or 500 cutters quit work today, and the strike may now